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WHAT'S NEXT FOR LARRY HOLMES?

BOXING'S POWER BROKERS: DON KING AND BOB ARUM BY BARNEY NAGLER

IS THERE FIGHT AFTER SEX? BY VIC ZIEGEL

HOW THEY SET BOXING ODDS

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PIPINO CUEVAS BY JOSE TORRES

EXCLUSIVE PICTURES OF HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT

PLUS RED SMITH
JIMMY JACOBS' "GREAT KOs"
RINGSIDE REPORTS
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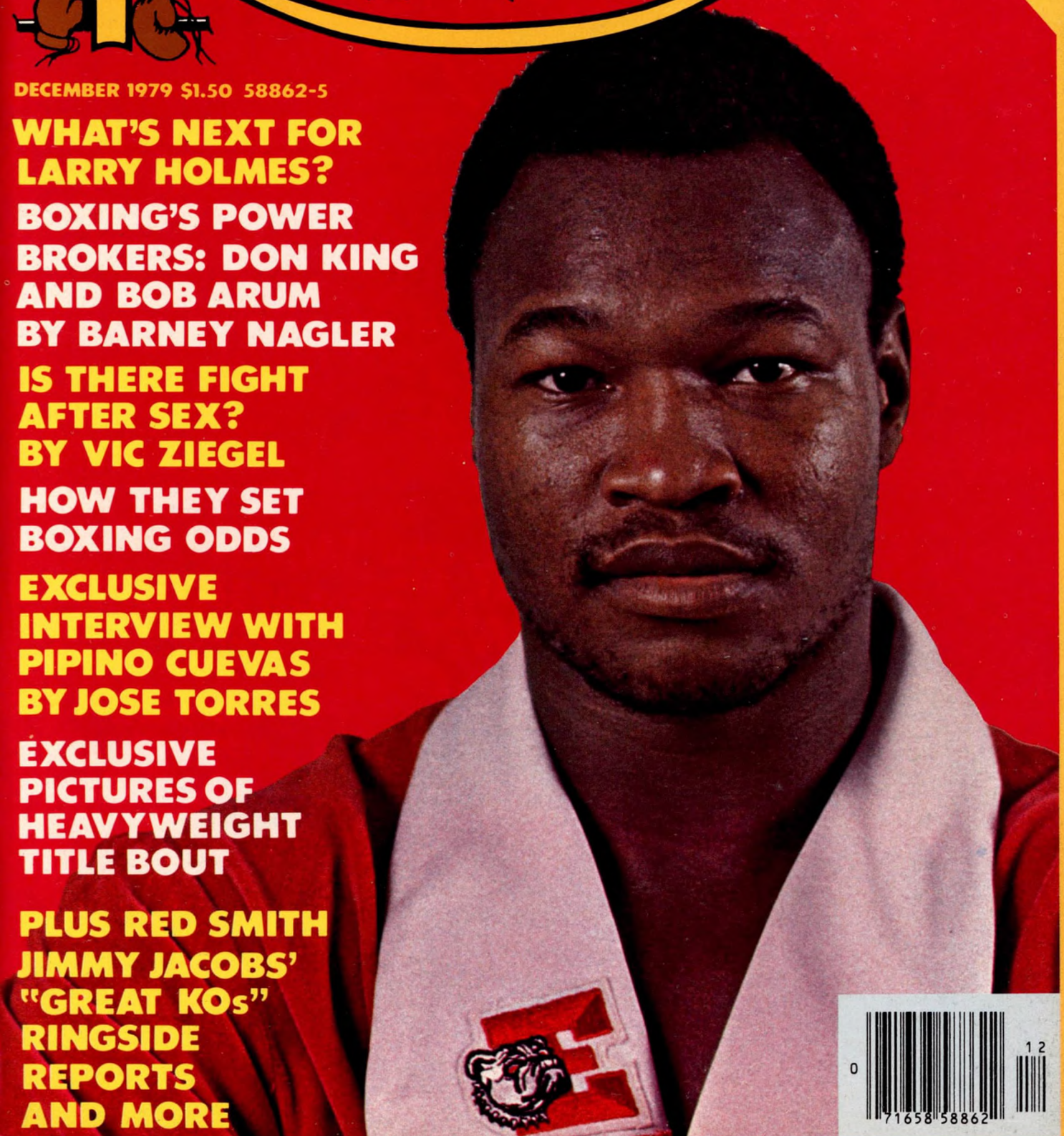

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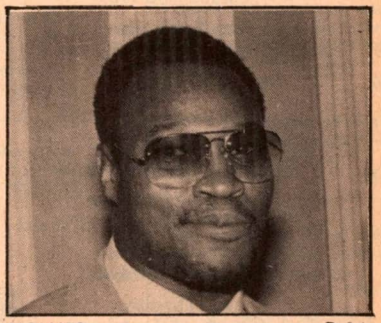

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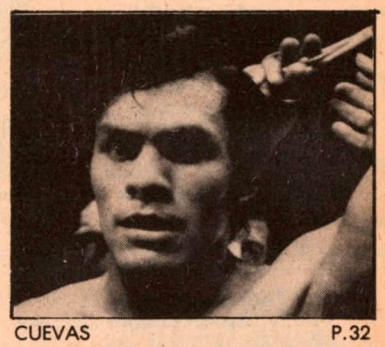

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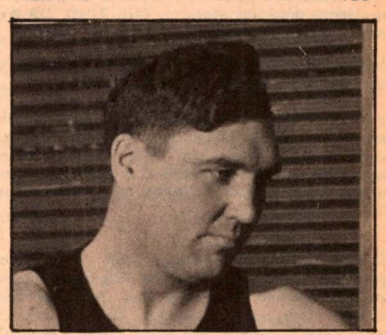

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RINGSIDE

Although most of the returns are still not in, the reader reaction to the all-new *Ring* appears to be overwhelming in its praise of the new format, the new writers and our new approach. Granted, we did receive a few letters that might be termed uncomplimentary (such as "It looks like a wrassling magazine Howard Cosell would come out with") — proving that you can't please all the people all the time — still, the 20-1 ratio is extremely gratifying, and justifies our belief that we have your support in our attempts to make *Ring* more than just the "Bible of Boxing", but the trade paper of boxing as well. Words not spoken lightly, but ones we feel we can achieve, nevertheless.

Towards that end, we have included several stories and features which heretofore might not have found their way into *Ring*; stories which we feel are worthy of your attention and discussion.

Believing that there is no rule which holds that boxing writing must be bad writing, we have added to our growing list of distinguished contributors the names of two of the finest writers in the country, boxing or otherwise: Barney Nagler and Vic Ziegel. These two writers have taken on two of the most challenging assignments *Ring* has ever attempted, and each has done an admirable job. Mr. Nagler has tackled the task of presenting boxing's two power brokers, Bob Arum and Don King. Neither his style nor his subject matter sit still for much nonsense, and Mr. Nagler has treated the subject in a no-nonsense manner. Vic Ziegel's subject presented a different problem; it was a subject which always has been treated in hushed whispers: sex. There must be reasons for this, but we couldn't think of any. Especially when such stories have appeared in books written by Sugar Ray Robinson and Joe Louis, but never in a boxing magazine. We think that Mr. Ziegel's piece takes boxing out of the Venetian vase it has always been in and puts it out into the light where it belongs. Together, their two articles are the coin of what we call boxing — and good boxing writing.

Added to that coin are such other riches as Red Smith's great piece on Lew Jenkins and Jose Torres' exclusive interview with Pipino Cuevas, plus some award-winning photographs by Fred Roe and Russell Schwartz, giving the total package a delicate balance of old and new.

We believe that such a well-balanced diet of boxing news and views will provide you with more than a mere taste for boxing. We think you'll find it a veritable smorgasbord, one you will find — and only get — in the all-new *Ring* Magazine!

Bert R. Sugar

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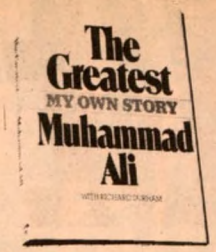

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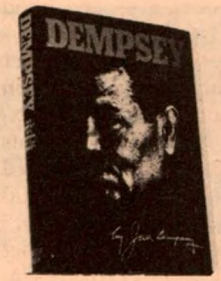

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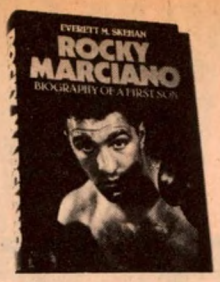

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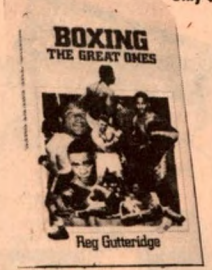

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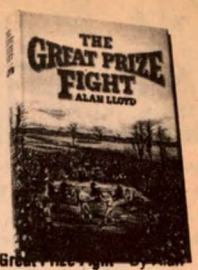

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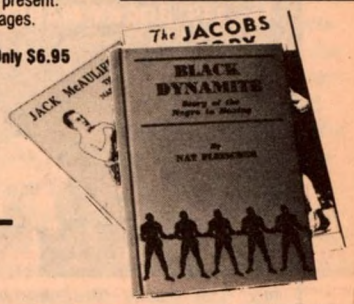

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A crunching left by Baer knocks the 'Brown Bomber' out of the ring in round 1. Louis methodically fights back and begins to land effective punches. In round 6 Joe floors Buddy twice and lands a tremendous punch to Baer's jaw as the bell sounds. Baer's cornermen, claiming foul, demand a disqualification, but instead their fighter is disqualified for not coming out for the 7th round. See and judge for yourself the validity of this disqualification.

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No. 119 ROCKY MARCIANO vs. DON COCKELL

No. 119 Rocky Marciano vs. Don Cockell—May 16, 1955. Rocky, in the prime of his spectacular career unleashes a savage beating on the game British challenger. Round after round the "Rock" pummels Cockell with vicious lefts and rights leaving the contender teetering on the ropes. Marciano sensing the kill opens round 9 with a smashing left and a thunderous overhand right that drops Cockell to the canvas. Cockell climbs to his feet only to be pounded back to the canvas by a barrage of lefts and rights. The referee mercifully stops the fight and prevents Cockell from absorbing further punishment. Marciano narrates sound edition.

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ROUND ONE

TODAY FOOTBALL AND HORSERACING, TOMORROW; THE WIDE WORLD OF . . .

First it was "Too Tall" Jones who left football to become a boxer. Now jockey Chiqui Santiago has announced his plans to leave racing and become a junior lightweight. Santiago is no more washed up as a jockey than Jones was as a football player, bringing home 167 winners in 1977.

"I never really gave up boxing," says Santiago, whose first dream and ambition was to be a fighter. "I go to the gym two or three times every week." After working at the track on Saturday mornings, he goes to a local gym in San Jose to meet manager Quigue Carrion and cornerman Chungo Foneseca, where he is in training for his ring debut. Unlike Jones, however, Santiago intends to continue his career as a jockey as well!

BOXING LOSES PALOMINO TO THE STAGE

Former WBC welterweight champion Carlos Palomino has announced that he is quitting the ring. Palomino said that he was "retiring with pride . . . and looking forward to new challenges."

A former shoeshine boy in Mexico, Palomino held the title from 1976 until January 1979 when he lost it to Wilfred Benitez. He ended his career with a 28-3-3 record and more than $1 million.

The ex-fighter has been taking acting lessons and is hoping for a new career in movies and television.

THE STARS OF BOXING

Sybil Leek has been described as many things: a columnist, an expert in herbs, a playwright, a newspaperwoman, a TV writer and, of course, the world's leading astrologist. It was for her expertise in this last capacity that we approached her for her "reading" on the future of boxing.

"Look out for the comeback of the gladiators!" was her first observation. "I foresee a time when the joggers will fade away and the boxers come in for a new six years of prosperity and increased interest."

Any specifics?, she was asked. "The planetary pattern indicates that we shall see more aggressive boxers in the ring during the next six years. Brute strength will dominate over pure techniques, and the heavyweights will show more of the 'killer instinct,' she answered. "If ever there was a time for the United States to produce a world-famous heavyweight, it is between now and 1985."

But didn't she see any one person, in particular, in the stars? "I do not see a specific single person emerging. The trend is towards a good team of boxers, mostly

drawn from the ranks of Taureans (April 20-May 20) and Scorpios (October 23-November 21). Fights will be more exciting because nothing pleases the crowd more than an aggressive fighter."

And what about the other weight classes? "March-born Pisceans and Geminis (May 21-June 21) will take the lead in the light and middleweight classes with a Sagittarian (November 22-December 21) providing some surprises in 1980. But the Sagittarians will not be able to sustain their victories throughout the next six years." And then she added, "The situation is not so bright for light and middleweights, although they will be crowd pleasers at the Olympics. But it won't lead them to the treasured gold medals, although four Americans will stand on the winning dais."

Any other insights? "I forsee boxing presentations increasing in Florida and New Orleans in the next two years. Some of the smaller cities will also see a better class of fighting as well and boxing will become more popular in colleges. And, oh yes, look for some aggressive new fighters coming from Africa to liven up the sports arenas as well."

Well, now you've read for the first time the future of boxing in *Ring* just as it was read in the stars by Sybil Leek.

THE BUSINESS RING

Businessmen Don Hubbard and Sherman Copelin are reportedly sensitive about certain remarks made by promoter Bob Arum during the staging of the Ali-Spinks championship bout last September — sensitive enough to sue Arum and the Times—Picayune Publishing Corp. for $15 million! The lawsuit, filed by the two businessmen and their wives, said that Arum called them "hoodlums" and "dangerous people." Guess Hubbard and Copelin want to show Arum that they can be just that — dangerous!

BRANDO SAID IT FIRST

Never has there been an actor more boxeresque than Marlon Brando. And never has any one line summed up so well the universal dream of every fighter as Brando's "I coulda been a contender," from the 1954 Academy Award winning film "On the Waterfront." Paraphrased recently in Peter Maas' first novel *Made In America*, "The kid could of been a contender," the line has lost none of its bittersweet poignancy.

The original monologue? "Remember that night in the Garden. You came down to my dressing room and said 'Kid, this ain't your night. We're going for the price on Wilson.' You remember that? 'This ain't

your night.' My night! I coulda taken Wilson apart. So what happens? He gets the title shot outdoors in the ballpark. And what do I get? A one-way ticket to Palookaville. You was my brother, Charlie, you should of looked after me a little bit . . . I coulda had class. I coulda been a contender. I coulda been a somebody — instead of a bum — which I am. Let's face it, it was you, Charlie."

PURSES RISING

Inflation has touched every other aspect of Americana, so why not boxing? Especially when it comes to the hefty purses being paid to boxers these days.

One recent indicator of the rising "worth" of boxers is the $45,000 paid to Ed "Too Tall" Jones for his first professional fight, setting a record for the largest first-fight purse in history. The previous record holder, if Guinness is interested, was Sugar Ray Leonard, who grossed $42,500 for his debut in 1977. Other first-fight purses include Howard Davis, who received $17, 500 in 1977; Joe Frazier, who fought for $500 in 1965; Floyd Patterson, who made $75 in 1952; Joe Louis, who received all of $52 in 1934; Rocky Marciano, who took down $50 in 1947; and Tommy Burns, whose debut earned him the munificent amount of $1.25 in 1900.

How's *that* for inflation?

LIKE FATHER? NOT SONS!

It was Homer, the first scribner of boxing, who first wrote "Few sons are like their father." But it is Michael Conn and Joseph Louis Barrow Jr. who have recently brought the phrase home.

For 38 years after their famous boxing fathers — Billy Conn and Joe Louis — fought in one of the classic fights of all time, these two sons of the greats have become friends in Washington, D.C., where the 26-year-old Conn works as a stockbroker and the 32-year-old Barrow, still sporting his father's family name, is the director of the Department of Energy's Office of Commercialization.

It was while they were each tipping a cup of kindness in a pub called "F. Scott's" in Georgetown, that a mutual friend introduced the two sons to each other, rekindling a second generation friendship that Billy and Joe carried for many years after their 13-round confrontation.

When a reporter asked them if they had had any aspirations inside the ring, Mike replied, "My older brothers and I used to box together and Dad taught us some tricks on how to handle ourselves. But he always thought the most important thing for me to do was get a solid education. He told me I'd never need to fight as long as I hung around big friends and learned how to run fast."

Louis' son recalls that "a sportswriter once asked my father, 'Joe, have you ever considered that your son might become a fighter?' His answer was that no matter how old he got, he'd always have one right-hand shot left in his system, and that's when he'd use it."

But even though neither wanted to follow their dad's footsteps into the ring, both followed their father's feats. And every now and then, even today, Michael Conn will look over at Joe Barrow and say, "Come on, if it hadn't been for that lucky punch, who do you think would have really won that fight?"

RISKY JOB FOR REFS

A boxing match in Nis, Yugoslavia this past July ended with a classical knockout. But it was the referee, not one of the fighters, who left the ring on a stretcher!

Ref Zoran Stojic objected to the improper style of Milutin Milovic of Titograd, Yugoslavia, and the enraged light heavyweight reacted with a direct punch to the referee's jaw. The boxer then tried to continue his attack on Stojic, who by that time was sprawled, inert, on the canvas. When police intervened, a free-for-all broke out in the ring and, according to a Belgrade newspaper, "one could not know who was hitting who." Is that what is meant by participatory sports?

Milovic's coach told officials that there was "no reason to interrupt the match," even after the melee that occurred in the third round of the fight, but no further bouts were held. Perhaps they were short on referees.

DOWN FOR THE COUNT

BILL DUFFY, 62, former welterweight and trainer, after a prolonged illness. Duffy was a popular physical education teacher and baseball coach at Boston English, the nation's first public high school. The Milton, Mass., resident lost a 1941 decision to Marty Servo before Servo became world champ. Duffy was one of New England's leading amateur coaches and entered hundreds of boys in the Golden Gloves.

JOE GARFIELD, 62, New York City area promoter and ex-manager, after a prolonged illness. Garfield managed, among others, Harold Richardson and Vern Lester. He recently tried to revive club shows in New York at Power Memorial, a high school in mid-Manhattan. Seriously ill three years ago, he had been shocked to read his premature obit in some publications.

KELSE McCLURE, 52, chairman of Indiana State Athletic Commission, of a heart attack while at ringside during fights in Indianapolis. McClure, who had followed his father in the commission job, was Chairman of USBA ratings committee and WBA official, and served as a judge in the 1959 Floyd Patterson-Brian London title fight in Indianapolis.

BOB BIRON, 67, the man who guided Ken Norton to financial security along with a brief share of the heavyweight title, died September 23rd at his home in Rancho Sante Fe, Calif., nine months after undergoing surgery for removal of a brain tumor. A former vice chancellor for finance at the University of California at San Diego, Biron took over the management of Norton in 1971, when he and four associates purchased Norton's contract for a reported $80,000.

PUNCHLINES

—Muhammad Ali, after being given a "Day" by Los Angeles Major Tom Bradley on the occasion of his retirement: "Mayor Bradley gave me a 'Day' after all the work I've done. I'd hate to think how hard I'd have to work to get a week."

—Comedian Joey Bishop to Don King: "Boy, you're everywhere. Today I saw two kids fighting on a street corner and over their heads was a sign saying 'Don King Enterprises.' "

—Manager Paddy Flood, responding to a question as to why his fighter, Mustafa Hamsho, "fights with the wrong hand." "He don't. He fights right—in front of you."

—Harry Markson, upon hearing that the Russian boxing team coming to the World Cup matches in New York would have 11 boxers and 22 coaches: "Too many coaches spoil the borscht." —E.J. GARY

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	List	KO Price
___ 4444 - Top Professional Ball Bearing Swivel	$20.00	$15.00
___ 4440 - Professional Detachable Swivel	12.00	9.00

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___ 4450 - Herringbone Tape Handwrapping	$3.80/pr.	$2.85
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___ 2106 - Top Pro Safety Guard 6oz. Fighting Gloves	$110.00/set (4 gloves)	$82.50
___ 2108 - Top Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	116.00/set (4 gloves)	87.00
___ 21086 - Extra Large Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	120.00/set (4 gloves)	90.00
___ 2110 - Pro Safety Guard 10oz. Fighting Gloves	122.00/set (4 gloves)	91.50
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___ 44156 - Luxury Velvet Trunks over size 32	52.00	39.00
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___ 4461 - Top Pro-Foul Proof Protection Cup	$80.00	$60.00
___ 4460 - Pro Foul-Proof Protective Cup	70.00	52.50*
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___ 6612 - Floor level Ring (All Rings FOB Missouri)	780.00	585.00

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___ 4200 - Top professional leather speed bag	$44.00	$33.00
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___ 4552 - Karate Kick Board - 2' X 2'	32.00	24.00
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___ 2512 - Top pro 12oz. training glove	$138.00/set (4 gloves)	$103.50
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___ 2516 - Top pro 16oz. training glove	150.00/set (4 gloves)	112.50
___ 2412 - Professional 12oz. training glove	90.00/pr	67.50
___ 2414 - Professional 14oz. training glove	94.00/pr	70.50
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ONCE A CHAMP ... ALWAYS A CHAMP

I recently had the privilege of watching two inspiring performances: ex-champions Carlos Palomino (vs Roberto Duran) and John Conteh (vs Matthew Saad Muhammad). Although neither came out of their fights victorious, there was never any doubt on either occasion that both men in the ring were equals in championship spirit. Palomino and Conteh conducted themselves before, during, and after their contests with such class and such dignity that I must believe that there is something that comes to a man with winning a world championship that can never truly be stripped from him. I would like to salute two fine men who will always remain champions in the full sense of the word.

James Monroe Justice
Yonkers, N.Y.

CHARLES SHOULD BE RATED IN LIGHT HEAVIES

In your October issue, the history of the light heavyweight division failed to mention the great Ezzard Charles. Ezzard beat Archie Moore three times and Joey Maxim five times. Much of his career was spent as a light heavyweight.

Alexander Groves
Adams, Mass.

THREE BLIND OFFICIALS

I consider the light heavyweight title fight between Franklin and Conteh a case of blind judgment. Were the judges watching the fight, or the round girls? I feel Conteh fought a great fight and did everything that had to be done to win. I scored the fight 146-143, Conteh. How could the judges forget all the previous rounds and just look at round 14?

Thomas Timmons
Rochester, N.Y.

A PLEA FOR PARKER

When is *Ring* Magazine going to rate Curtis Parker, the rising middleweight from Philadelpia? He is currently 14-0 against good opponents as a pro and was the 1977 National AAU Champion. Although he has not had the opportunity to fight the top rated fighters, he is capable of beating anyone except possibly Marvin Hagler in the division.

Stephen C. Bennett
Drexel Hill Pa.

SHOULD BOXING GO TO COLLEGE?

If college team boxing were successful on a large scale it would lead to Pro team boxing. Pro boxers could fight 5 to 6 months a year for a pro team and then would be free for individual matches just like pro tennis has incorporated the team concept with no loss of good individual match ups. I am sure both college team boxing and pro team boxing would be exciting and profitable to the schools that sponsored them, and the pro sponsors. I hope your magazine will join me in my efforts to promote college team boxing.

Ralph Paulson
Keene, N.H.

JEFFRIES OVERLOOKED

I have read several letters in your magazine critical of former heavyweight champion Jim Jeffries. He is usually referred to as too slow, too fat and nothing more than a punching bag. Although Jeffries may have gained weight between fights — and he certainly did before he came out of retirement to face Jack Johnson — I have never seen a photograph or film of Jeffries in the ring when he didn't appear to be in the best possible shape, slimmed down and rock hard.

Let's not forget that Jeffries retired undefeated, never ducked an opponent on his way to the title, regardless of reputation or color, and virtually every man he fought in his entire career had more experience than he. As a champion, Jim drew the color line only because of outside pressure, not of his own volition.

Malcolm Channon
Salt Lake City, Utah

ARE HEAVIES *TOO* HEAVY?

Boxing is badly in need of a super-heavyweight division. Think about it — how would Danny Lopez do against Matt Franklin? Well, that's the weight difference you'd have, putting a 180 pounder in against a giant like John Tate or Ken Norton. Why does boxing have a total of *eleven* weight divisions up to 175 pounds (essentially covering a 75 pound weight range), and then leave the 176 pounders out in the rain? The situation must be corrected!

Bill Jones, Jr.
Sun Valley, Ca.

ENOUGH SAID ABOUT SAAD

I've noticed that a few boxing writers are criticizing Matthew Saad Muhammad because he takes too much punishment in his ring encounters. If he takes too much punishment, how did he get to be WBC champion? Obviously, he's doing something right. When criticizing Matthew, one has to remember that there are many great champions, past and present, who lacked good defensive skills. A man who has decisively beaten the likes of Richie Kates, Billy Douglas, Yaqui Lopez, Marvin Johnson and John Conteh doesn't deserve criticism!

Joseph T. Pantaleo
Rochester, New York

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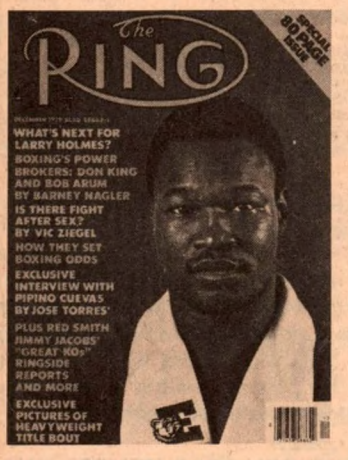

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q Which fighter has had the most fights? Also, how many first round knockouts did Primo Carnera have?
—John Sinapi

A The most number of fights in a lifetime was compiled by Abraham Hollandersky (Abe The Newsboy), who engaged in 1309 in all parts of the world. He also had 387 wrestling matches between 1905 and 1918. Most of his fights were aboard naval vessels. Primo Carnera had 14 one round kayos.

Q When was The Ring Boxing Hall of Fame founded?
—Ralph Marciano

A The Ring Boxing Hall of Fame was founded in 1954 by the late Nat Fleischer, founder of *The Ring* in 1922. The Hall now boasts 149 members comprised of three groups—Pioneers, Old-timers and Moderns.

Q Can you tell me what was the greatest weight difference in a world championship fight?
—Bob Cohen

A On March 1, 1934 Primo Carnera defeated Tommy Loughran in Miami, successfully defending his world heavyweight crown. The weight difference was 86 pounds, Carnera weighing 270 to Loughran's 184.

Q When did New York first begin to use rings with four strands of ropes?
Tim McGarrick

A The rule for four strands — instead of three — was put into effect by New York State on June 8, 1963.

Q When — and from whom — did Danny "Little Red" Lopez win the World Featherweight title?
—Gerry Kleinman

A Lopez won his world featherweight title by defeating David "Poison" Kotey in a 15 round decision on November 5, 1976.

Q Would you please give me the financial breakdown for the March 24, 1975 heavyweight title fight between Muhammad Ali and Chuck Wepner?
—Bruce Elliot

A The bout took place at the Cleveland Coliseum, which seated 21,000. The attendance was 14,847 and Ali received $1.5 million while Wepner took home $100,000. While no figures on receipts were ever made available, it was reported that the Don King show lost up to as much as $800,000.

Q In the old bare knuckle days did the fighters have to punch with their fists held in an up-and-down position? Posed pictures of the era seem to indicate this.
—Scott Butler

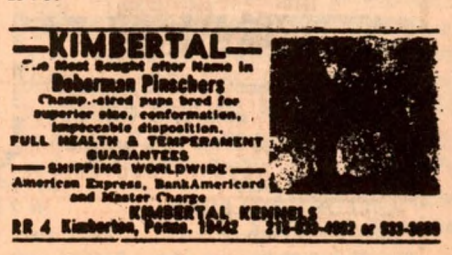
A The answer is no, not then, not now! To this day fighters may punch using their fists with knuckles to the side, up, down, or in any position. Fists must be closed and thumbs held in, close to the gloves. The use of open gloves or thumbs was — and is — considered a foul.

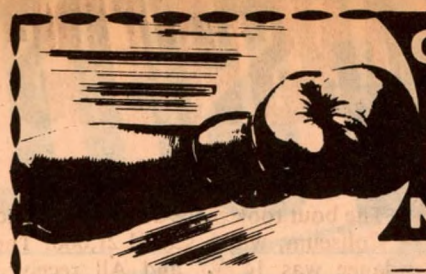
Q Why isn't Battling Levinsky listed among *The Ring*'s top 10 All-Time light heavyweights? He fought 400 bouts, boxed over 25 years, was a light heavyweight champ and defeated 3 heavyweights in one day.
—Frank B. Strozer

A The All-Time Greats — 10 men in each division — were picked by *The Ring* staff. Levinsky was considered but did not obtain the required number of votes.

Q Which of the following heavyweight boxers are officially retired: George Chuvalo, Joe Bugner, Chuck Wepner or John "Dino" Dennis?
—Matt Newgarden

A All of the men mentioned but one have officially retired only to come back to the ring. George Chuvalo is currently fighting in Canada, Joe Bugner is seriously considering a $100,000 offer to fight the winner of the Shavers-Holmes fight. John "Dino" Dennis is boxing in the U.S. Chuck Wepner is the sole exception, retiring after losing against Scott Frank in 1978.





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	(Extra Per Set)	
___GG012 - Golden Glove & Olympic 12 oz. Red or Black	86.40 (set of 4)	115.20
___JG010 - International & Olympic 10 oz. White surface over knuckles. Red & White or Black & White. Small for Juniors.	88.20 (set of 4)	117.60
___JG012 - International & Olympic 12 oz. White surface over knuckles. Red & White or Black & White.	91.80 (set of 4)	122.40

HEADGUARDS:	PG PRICE	LIST
___HGC - Official Collegiate & Military. Size: S M L XL	41.40	55.20
___HGP - Professional Size: S M L XL	53.10	70.80
___HGFM - Professional Cheek Protector. Size: S M L XL	62.10	82.80
___HGY - Youth Model Size: S M L XL	28.80	38.40

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___TGP10 - Professional 10 oz.	117.00 (set of 4)	156.00
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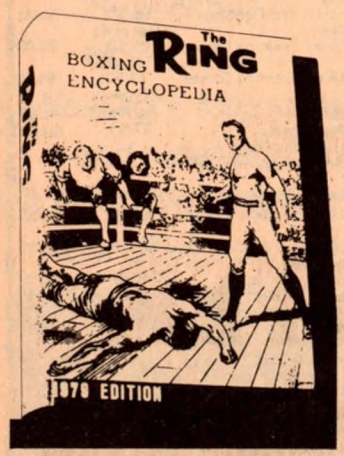

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WHAT'S NEXT FOR LARRY HOLMES?

THE MAN WHO OWNS HALF THE TITLE LOOKS FOR WHOLE WORLDS TO CONQUER

By BERT RANDOLPH SUGAR

Bert Randolph Sugar, author of Hit The Sign And Win A Free Suit of Clothes From Harry Finklestein, *is the Editor and Publisher of* The Ring *magazine.*

Las Vegas. The Great White Way with a $10 minimum. Where chips confer status and only winners count.

Once New York had been boxing's mecca. But now the town that was built by winners off of losers' chips seems to be the hub of boxing's universe. And last September 28th it once again laid claim to its tentative title of "Boxing's Capital" by hosting the Larry Holmes-Earnie Shavers WBC Championship bout at Caesars' Palace.

The scene at Caesars' Palace that weekend was pure carnival. Boxing's devotees, dilettantes and denizens from the world of the unusual had all descended upon Vegas, ready for anything, any "action".

And there was plenty to be found. In the lobbies of Caesars' Palace — which looked like the set for a George Raft movie — small groups crossed and recrossed, a festive migration to nowhere at all, as the soft click and hum of the slots' hidden machinery provided the proper background for the chorus of hooted hellos and the tinkle of glass and the shivery laughter of foxes. All of a sudden, the three most magic words in the world were not "I love you," but "Are You Working?" to females and "Who You Betting?" to males.

The faithful — along with more than a few of the faithless — all seemed to be running around with money that cried out "Bet me! Bet me!,"trying to do just that. But too many remembered the last time Holmes had met Shavers, some 18 months before in Vegas. That night Holmes had given a virtuoso 12-round performance of almost flawless ringmanship, controlling the fight — and Shavers — and almost scoring a shutout, winning 35 of 36 rounds on the three officials' cards. Now, the betting reflected Holmes' prior domination of Shavers, and all the Holmes followers could get was 3-1.

That night Holmes proved something he had sought all of his life to prove: He belonged in the ring — wherever it was set up — to fight for the heavyweight championship. He was somebody.

The man from "Easton, P—A," as he calls it, had come a long way from Cuthbert, Georgia, where he was born on November 3, 1949. One of 12 children born to John and Flossie Holmes, Larry Holmes didn't have "much of a childhood." After moving to Easton, Pennsylvania, in 1954, his parents were divorced and Larry quit school after the seventh grade to work in a carwash at $1 an hour in order to support his family. But he always nurtured the belief that someday he "would be somebody."

To most people, the dreams of glory were a fool's gold. To Larry Holmes, they were attainable. Holmes, like so many of the underprivileged, saw boxing as his way up — his way out. He took up boxing at the local PAL and Youth Center in Easton, learning his chosen trade. Life was to become an education for Larry; the one he had missed in school.

Turning amateur in 1970, he fought 22 times, losing only three fights, one of them to Duane Bobick in the '72 Olympic finals, earning for Bobick a spot on the Olympic team and for Holmes the unfounded reputation for being a "quitter." But the word quit was nowhere to be found in Holmes' vocabulary. He continued to follow his star, going down to Muhammad Ali's training camp in nearby Deer Lake, Pennsylvania, to spar and learn what he could. And learn he did, enough to turn pro in 1973.

Richie Giachetti, his current manager, remembers the first time he ever saw Holmes. "I was training Earnie Shavers for the Ellis fight up at Grossinger's. He came up by himself, from Bobby Gleason's gym in the Bronx, with his headgear, trunks and gloves. He just showed up one day to spar a couple of rounds." Six months later, with seven pro bouts under his belt, Holmes once again surfaces at Shavers' training camp, where Earnie was preparing for his ill-fated battle with Jerry Quarry. This time, according to Giachetti, he "boxed 30 rounds with Earnie." Holmes was anxious — even desperate — to learn as much as he could, as fast as he could. This impressed Giachetti the way it has impressed anyone

who has watched the development of Larry Holmes.

Larry kept learning, both in and out of the ring. He hired a tutor in order to raise his reading and speech skills above the seventh grade level he had acquired in Easton's public schools. And, whereas, according to Giachetti, "He never had the patience to pay attention before," now he became a willing student to anything said to him, much in the same manner Muhammad Ali had, who, when told that Georgia's governor, Lester Maddox, had proclaimed the day of his comeback fight with Jerry Quarry "A day of mourning," asked "What's that mean?" Told it meant a very black day, Ali perked up and said, "That's what it is — a very black day!" So, too, has Holmes learned to use the English language for his own purposes, instead of having it used against him.

Holmes continued to learn — and to win, fighting whenever and wherever he could. He fought on the undercard of "The Thrilla in Manila," beating Rodney Bobick in six, and on the undercard of the Ali-Young fight in Landover, beating Roy Williams in 10. And then he sat out the rest of 1976, nursing a broken right hand.

The critics wrote him off. He was a "quitter," he was hurt, and besides, he was "Don King's Man." But Holmes paid his critics "never no mind" and picked up where he had left off before his injury, entering the ill-fated United States Championship Tournament, winning his only fight before the entire tourney was aborted. He followed that up wit knockout wins over a threesome that were not even household names in their own houses: Horace Robinson, Young Sanford Houpe and Ibar Arrington. Still his critics carped, this time adding to their laundry list of complaints the caliber of his opponents.

Holmes was also putting to good use the lessons he learned inside the ring as well. Matched against Shavers in what was to have been a tune-up for his getting another bout with Ali, Holmes used it as his own stepping stone, employing several of the lessons he learned in the 30-plus rounds he had sparred with Earnie.

Overnight, the unheralded "Easton Assassin" became the much-heralded heavyweight contender. Suddenly people who had dismissed him, or, worse, disparaged his accomplishments, were taking note of the muscular 6-foot-four-inch heavyweight with incredibly long arms who had more than a passing resemblance to Ali.

The Byzantine world of boxing has two governing bodies: the WBA and the WBC. It was about this time in the history of boxing, not to mention the history of Larry Holmes, that the WBC was in the process of stripping the then-champion Leon Spinks of his crown for failing to fight their number one-rated contender Ken Norton. Norton was proclaimed WBC champion on the basis of his win over Jimmy Young and matched against Larry Holmes for the partial world's championship.

In a bout Don King pretentiously "Dedicated to the World Boxing Council for Reclaiming Dignity for Boxing!" — and the best fight since Ali-Frazier III — Holmes put on a furious 15th round rally to nip Norton and become the semi-champion of the world.

However, even after proving himself against Norton, Holmes got it — in the words of Rodney Dangerfield — "No respect." His lack of recognitiion, often being referred to as "The Other Champion," was attributable to the continued presence, albeit dwindling, of Muhammad Ali. When Ali appeared, he appealed to the crowd's sophistication; his style recalled an evening, a moment in time. Holmes, too, was a stylist. But it wasn't the same. He was missing something. Maybe adulation; surely recognition.

Holmes, still wanting to be "somebody," and still smarting from the public's failure to embrace him, overcompensated. He began to sound like a cross between Ali and Don King, prodding Ken Norton here, calling himself, like Ali, "The People's Champ," there. He even resorted to some known Ali strategems, like hollering out to his crowd of loyalists, "Who's the Champ!", and having the synchophants holler back, in unison, "Larry Holmes." It was great theatre, but it wasn't Larry Holmes. When Ali walked, there was always a crowd in his wake. Now Holmes was one of those, walking in his shadow. You can't take on the attributes of a god without being burned and Ali was a god to his followers. They never forgave Holmes for being "like" Ali.

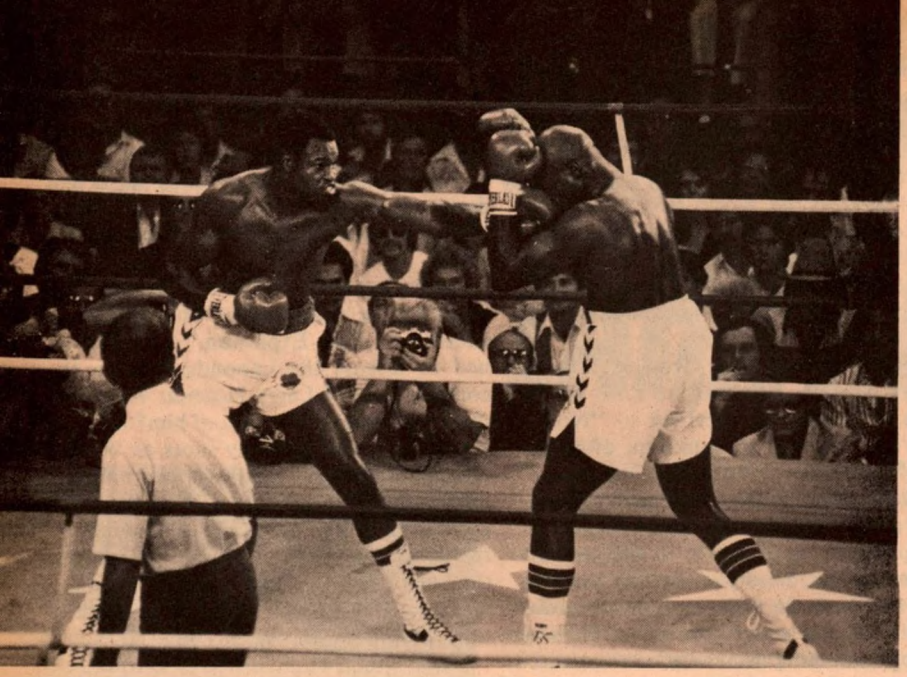
During the next 12 months, Holmes staged his mini-version of the Joe Louis "Bum of the Month" club, defending his half-title against such non-worthies as Alfredo Evangelista, Ossie Ocasio and Mike Weaver. Not only did he not improve his image among boxing's hardy core of cynics, he actually lost ground with his poor showing against Weaver. Now he was back in Vegas to defend both his part-title and his reputation against Shavers.

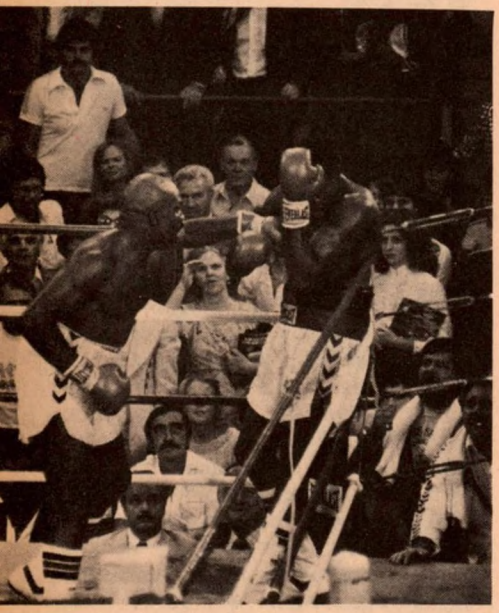
The night of September 28th was the night the Holmes watchers, doubters and adulators alike, had looked forward to. For that was the night Larry Holmes was to finally defend his WBC crown against an opponent worthy of the name "contender" — Earnie Shavers, whose leaden hands had destroyed 56 opponents, most of whom had to be treated for a severe case of the bends.

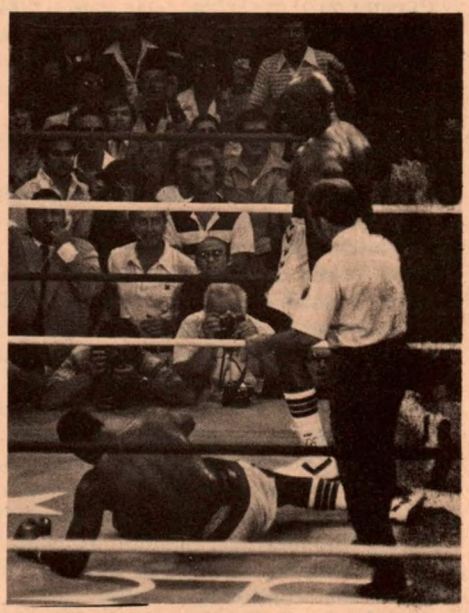
As the crowd of 4,500 sat through five bouts on the undercard of what Don King called "An Epic Explosion," they continued to discuss the imponderables in the complex case of Larry Holmes: What had the Weaver fight taken out of him? If Shavers hit him with as many shots as Weaver had, would he be able to take them? Would the beating he took in the Weaver fight, the punctured eardrum and the eye injury, affect him? And just how good was he, now that the man he had looked so good against, Ken Norton, had suffered stunning setbacks in his last two fights?

All those questions would be answered in a matter of minutes, as first the color guard, then challenger Earnie Shavers and finally Larry Holmes entered the ring in the middle of Caesars Palace's Sports Pavilion. Holmes had come down the aisle behind his brother Jake, who was carrying his WBC belt aloft, looking like a Roman warrior carrying the SPQR sign into battle. With an audacity beyond calling and a defiant self-assurance that proclaimed he held the title solidly in his hands, Holmes began bouncing around the ring, while Marvin Gaye took up his position to sing the Star Spangled Banner. Unfortunately for Gaye, who was also the manager of Andy Price, he was on longer than his fighter, as he gave his unique rendition of the National Anthem, deterring all but the most hardy from participating in any sort of sing-along.

Even before the words ". . .of the brave" had been whispered by Gaye, the crowd had begun that ritualistic chant, singular to heavyweight title fights. The ring announcer now took over the center of the ring to introduce the two participants: "Out of Warren, Ohio, weighing 211







A< Holmes finds the range with a stiff left jab through Shavers' peek-a-boo defense. One of the many, champion's jab beat a staccato rhythm on Shavers' face throughout the fight.

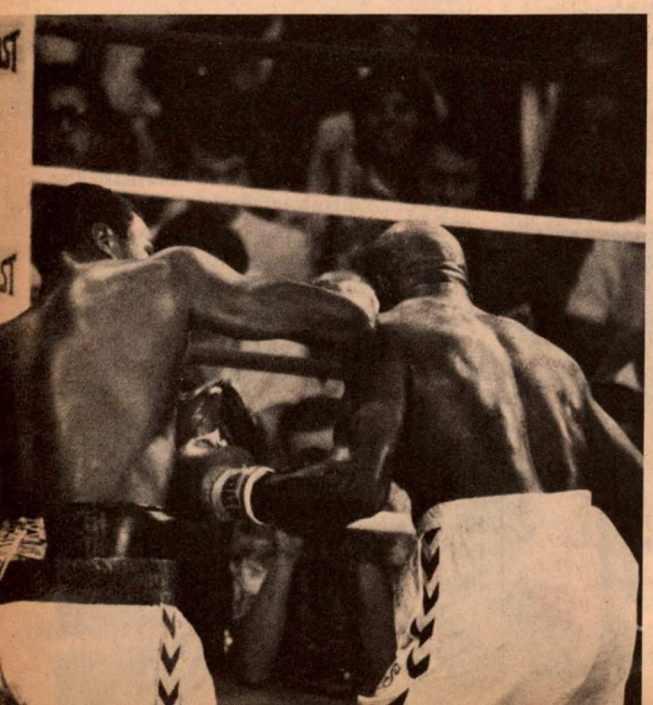
A Shavers lands a long right to the jaw. However, the champion's remarkable legs quickly moved him out of the way—and out of danger.

A> There were times, like this, that the champion virtually ran away from his awesome-hitting challenger, always moving to his right, away from Earnie's powerful right.

A>> The knockdown. Holmes drops like a sandhog, courtesy of a Shaver's right.

<< A weary challenger pounds a just-as-weary champion in Shavers' corner after the knockdown.

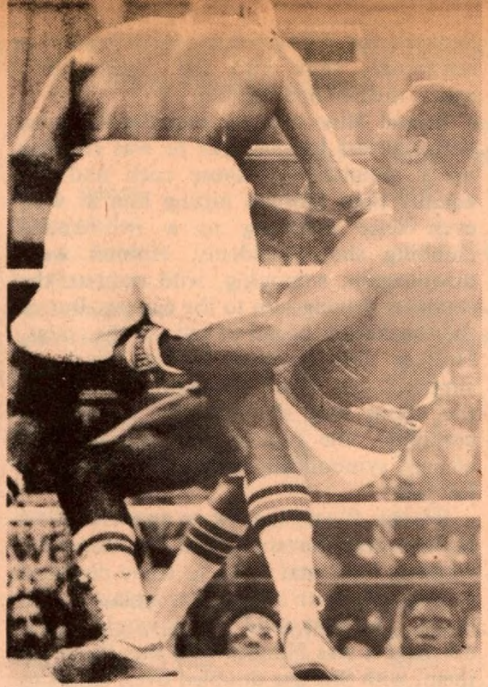
< Round Nine: Holmes is down again, this time from a right high on the shoulder. Referee Davey Pearl ruled it a slip, saying. "At that point, I don't think Shavers had enough to knock *me* down."

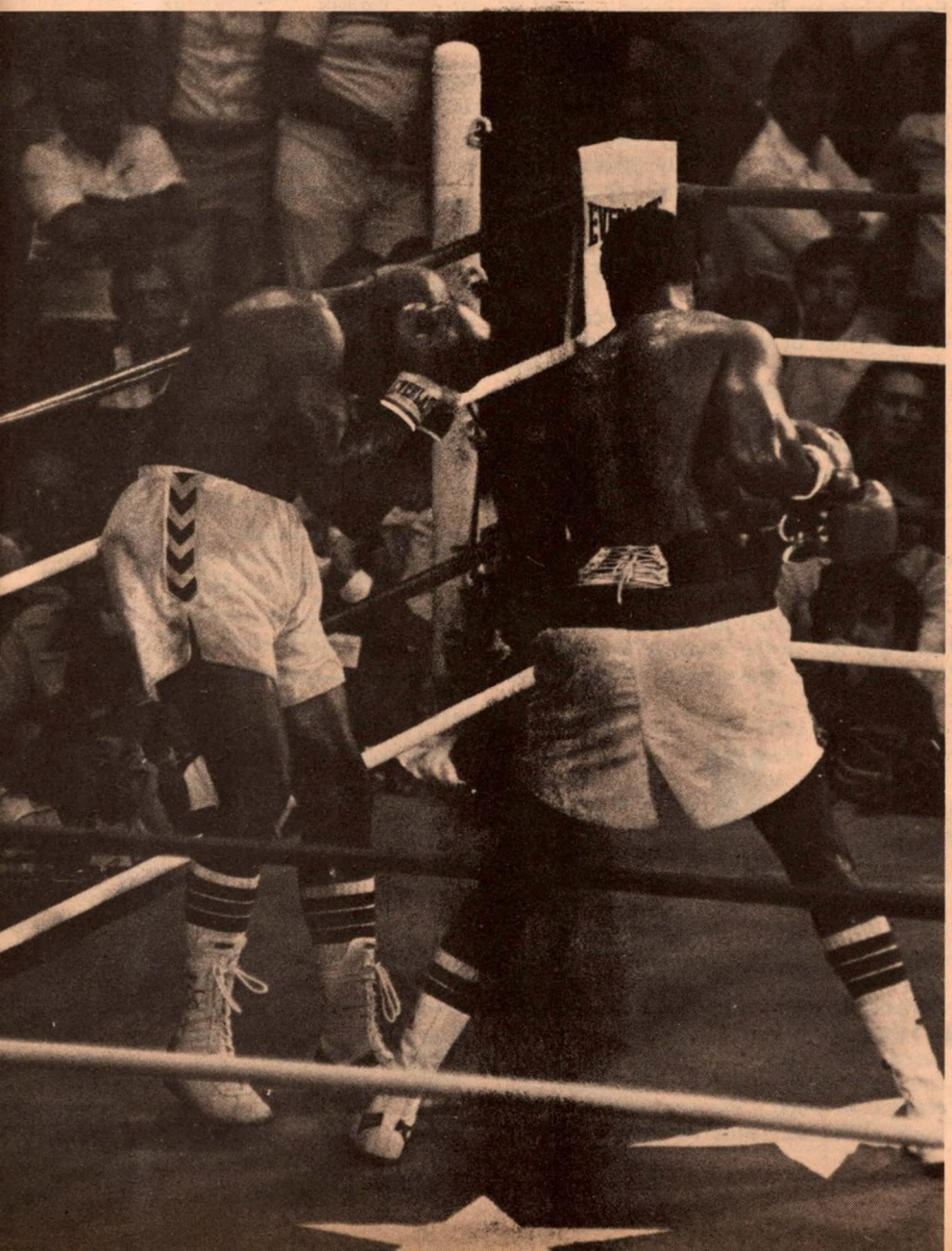


A A flailing champion gives every ounce ot his remaining energy to tinish ott a valiant—but thoroughly exhausted—challenger in round 10.

< Holmes connects with a hard right to the head in round 10. At this point, all the chips were down. It was only a question of who wanted it more.

> The end is moments away as Shavers sags on the ropes.





heard as Shavers' well-wishers put on a vocal show of force. And the man who had thought about the championship being his for 50 long nights and 50 times a night waved to "his" side of the arena. Now it was "The Easton Assassin's" turn. "And at 210 pounds, the WBC Heavyweight Champion . . ." and that was all you could hear, even at ringside, as Holmes acknowledged his applause. Then to the center of the ring for the instructions — where each indulged in a Sonny Liston style staring contest — and back to their corners for Round One.

Holmes came out of his corner throwing a left jab, then another and then still another. It was to become the most important element in the fight, as Holmes continued to double up on his jab through the remainder of the round, missing more than landing, but keeping Shavers at bay. By the end of the first round Holmes had thrown 23 left jabs. The second round was more of the same, this time Holmes threw 54 jabs, as Shavers continued to plod in, trying desperately to catch Larry on the ropes. On the few occasions he did manage to get Holmes on the ropes, Holmes literally ran to his right, away from Earnie's power, to emerge once more in the center of the ring and begin pumping his left again.

Holmes battle plan was all diagrammed. Like Monopoly. Take a walk on the Boardwalk. Pick a card reading "Jab, jab, jab. Retain your heavyweight championship. Collect a million-plus dollars." Giachetti claimed he had "figured things out in advance, the whole game plan two weeks before the fight. They'd try to corner us on the ropes. Go to the right, away from the right. Keep going to the right. Double jabs keep Earnie from throwing overhand rights and counters."

For the next four rounds, Holmes threw 182 jabs, operating like a patrol tentatively crossing an unknown minefield in the dead of night. Probing, touching. Every once in a while Shavers would land a right to the body, hurting Holmes, but Larry would revert to moving off the ropes quickly, once even turning his back to get out.

But Round Seven was different. Holmes eschewed the rolling, incessant rhythm of his jab, and resorted, instead, to old time boxing, taking one to give one. It was a mistake; almost a fatal one. Standing toe-to-toe, Holmes had just delivered a right and dropped his hands when it happened. Earnie Shavers went back, one more time, to a remembered well and brought up one final thundering chorus, his fist rumbling and crashing in on Holmes' cheek. For the merest part of a second, as Holmes dropped to the canvas, he looked like King Kong, falling from the highest point on the Empire State Building. It looked like the fight was over. But miraculously, Holmes

was getting up, and by the count of four had regained his balance. He took a count of eight and then went back into battle. Suddenly Holmes' world wasn't his any longer. There was this other mightier world of Earnie Shavers, and he was pursuing it, the smell of victory in his nostrils. He threw his right, and Holmes grabbed. He tried his left, and Holmes grabbed. But even as Shavers bulled Holmes around the ring, it appeared that Larry would weather the storm, clinching, running and holding. Doing anything he could to remain part heavyweight champion. Finally, the bell, and the frantic wave that had rushed over Holmes subsided.

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As the bell for Round Eight rang, the crowd was on its feet. Something in the air told them that this was the round in which a new heavyweight champion would be crowned. But it was not to be. And Holmes, whose return to fundamentals — jab and run — had not gone well in Round Seven, started to come back as Shavers began to lose momentum, looking like a hose after the water pressure had been turned off. Suddenly the semi-trance wore off and Holmes began picking Shavers' face apart again, reopening the cut over the right eye he had opened in the sixth and opening a new one over his left eye. Shavers' face was a crimson mask, as Holmes peppered it with 40 jabs, once again finding the double jab. By the end of the round, the weary Shavers, too exhausted to follow up on his advantage, sank into the ropes. Once again, the tide had shifted.

Round Nine took on a similar scenario, with Shavers looking like he was running up a mountain of loose rock and the equally tired Holmes hitting him at will, even once resorting to a two-handed clubbing shot. Suddenly, Holmes went down again, a looping, wild right to the shoulder driving him to the canvas. But as the timekeeper began to toll off the count, Holmes told referee Davey Pearl "I slipped" and Pearl obediently waved off the count and signaled the fighters to continue. The round, and Shavers' last chance, symbolically ended with a Holmes left jab.

Rounds 10 and 11 took on an eerie feel as Holmes and Shavers looked like they were whirling back and forth to some mythical central axis, both looking for a place to fall down. The first solid punch would win it all. And it was Holmes who was throwing them, with Shavers doubled over, hands to head, receiving them. But nothing short of artillery would drop Shavers. He had waited so long to climb to the top and he was not going to fall now. Holmes was even talking to him, beseeching him, "Why doncha quit?" Then, to the ref, "See, ref, I'm gonna kill him . . ." Only Shavers answered, "I can't . . . I'm tryin' to get your title." The round ended twice, once when the referee mistakenly heard a bell, and once more, seconds later, when the bell actually rang.

It was a struggle for Shavers to come out to the center of the ring. Hands to head, doubled over, he was hit by two jabs, an uppercut and three more rights to the head. He rested on the ropes, unable to get off a punch. Then, a right by Holmes, a left and five more lefts and a right uppercut, three lefts and two straight lefts. Finally, two minutes into the 11th round, with Shavers defenseless, but proudly retaining his standing position, the referee called a halt to the one-sided fight. Larry Holmes, 32 minutes and 378 left jabs after the opening bell, was still in the words of the ring announcer, "The heavyweight champion of the world."

What's next for Larry Holmes? The man who calls himself "The only champ" is technically correct until a new WBA champion is crowned. And, according to Giachetti, ". . . will be a fighting champion. We'll (using the manager's plural pronoun) give everybody a chance, but not till the first of the year."

Then? "Ron Lyle, Scott LeDoux, Leroy Jones, John Tate . . . We're not going to run from nobody." What about Gerrie Coetzee, if he wins? "We want to give everybody a chance. (But) we won't fight in South Africa. Wouldn't let South Africa make any money."

Does he think the WBC and the WBA will get together and allow Holmes and the winner of the Tate-Coetzee bout to fight? "It's King and Arum . . . and Arum is the devil." But what if they get together? Giachetti says, "Boxing makes strange bedfellows . . . anything is possible." And then he throws in one of boxing's most memorable lines, "Money talks and bullshit walks."

Today it is Larry Holmes who walks tall, loved, at least for the moment, by Las Vegas, which loves winners. Tomorrow is another story . . . ■

LARRY HOLMES' RING RECORD

1973

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 21	Rodell Dupree	Scranton	W 4
May 2	Art Savage	Scranton	KO 3
June 20	Curtis Whitner	Scranton	KO 1
Aug. 22	Don Branch	Scranton	W 6
Sept. 10	Bob Bozic	New York	W 6
Nov. 14	Jerry Judge	Scranton	W 6
Nov. 28	Kevin Isaac	Cleveland	KO 3

1974

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Apr. 24	Howard Darlington	Scranton	KO 4
May 29	Bob Mashbrun	Scranton	KO 7
Dec. 11	Joe Hathaway	Scranton	KO 1

1975

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 24	Charley Green	Cleveland	KO 2
Apr. 10	Oliver Wright	Honolulu	KO 3
Apr. 26	Robert Yarborough	Toronto	KO 3
May 16	Ernie Smith	Las Vegas	KO 3
Aug. 16	Obie English	Scranton	KO 7
Aug. 26	Charlie James	Honolulu	W 10
Oct. 1	Rodney Bobick	Manila	KO 6
Dec. 9	Leon Shaw	Washington, D.C.	KO 1
Dec. 20	Billy Joiner	Swan Juan	KO 3

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 29	Joe Gholston	Easton	KO 8
Apr. 5	Fred Askew	Landover	KO 2
Apr. 30	Roy Williams	Landover	W 10

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 16	Tom Prater	Pensacola	W 8
Mar. 17	Horace Robinson	San Juan	KO 5
Sept. 14	Young Sanford	Las Vegas	KO 7
Nov. 5	Ibar Arrington	Las Vegas	KO 10

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 25	Earnie Shavers	Las Vegas	W 12
June 9	Ken Norton (Won WBC Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	W 15
Nov. 10	Alfredo Evangelista (Retained WBC Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	KO 7

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 23	Osvaldo Ocasio (Retained WBC Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	KO 7
June 22	Mike Weaver (Retained WBC Heavyweight Title)	New York	KO 12
Sept. 28	Earnie Shavers (Retained WBC Heavyweight Title)	Las Vegas	KO 11

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
32	32	0	0	23

from *The Ring Record Book*

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS

Compiled by Herbert G. Goldman

Date	Winner	Weight	Loser	Weight	Result	Time KO	Site	Referee
9/ 7/92	James J. Corbett	178	John L. Sullivan	212	KO 21		Olympic Club, New Orleans	Prof. John Duffy
1/25/94	James J. Corbett	184	Charley Mitchell	158	KO 3		Duval A.C., Jacksonville	Honest John Kelly
3/17/97	Bob Fitzsimmons	167	James J. Corbett	183	KO 14	1:40	Carson City, Nevada	George Siler
6/ 9/99	James J. Jeffries	206	Bob Fitzsimmons	167	KO 11		Coney Island, New York	George Siler
11/ 3/99	James J. Jeffries	215	Sailor Tom Sharkey	183	ref 25	—	Coney Island, New York	George Siler
4/ 6/00	James J. Jeffries		Jack Finnegan		KO 1	0:55	Detroit, Michigan	
5/11/00	James J. Jeffries	218	James J. Corbett	188	KO 23		Coney Island, New York	Charley White
11/15/01	James J. Jeffries		Gus Ruhlin		TKO 6	*	San Francisco, Calif.	Harry Corbett
7/25/02	James J. Jeffries	219	Bob Fitzsimmons	172	KO 8		San Francisco, Calif.	Ed Graney
8/14/03	James J. Jeffries	220	James J. Corbett	190	KO 10		San Francisco, Calif.	Ed Graney
8/25/04	James J. Jeffries	219	Jack Munroe	186	TKO 2		San Francisco, Calif.	Ed Graney
7/03/05	Marvin Hart	190	Jack Root	171	KO 12		Reno, Nevada	James J. Jeffries
1/15/06	Marvin Hart		Pat Callahan		KO 2		Butte, Montana	
2/23/06	Tommy Burns	180	Marvin Hart	188	ref 20	—	Los Angeles, Calif.	James J. Jeffries
10/ 2/06	Tommy Burns		Fireman Jim Flynn		KO 15		Los Angeles, Calif.	
11/28/06	Tommy Burns	172	Philadelphia Jack O'Brien	163½	draw 20	—	Los Angeles, Calif.	James J. Jeffries
5/ 8/07	Tommy Burns	180	Philadelphia Jack O'Brien	167	ref 20	—	Los Angeles, Calif.	Charles Eyton
7/ 4/07	Tommy Burns	181	Bill Squires	180	KO 1	2:09	Colma, Calif.	James J. Jeffries
12/ 2/07	Tommy Burns	177	Gunner Moir	204	KO 10		London, England	Eugene Corri
2/10/08	Tommy Burns		Jack Palmer		KO 4		London, England	Eugene Corri
3/17/08	Tommy Burns		Jem Roche		KO 1	1:28	Dublin, Ireland	R.P. Watson
4/18/08	Tommy Burns		Jewey Smith		KO 5		Paris, France	
6/13/08	Tommy Burns	184	Bill Squires	183	KO 8		Paris, France	
8/24/08	Tommy Burns	181	Bill Squires	184	KO 13		Rushcutter's Bay, Sydney	H.C. Nathan
9/ 2/08	Tommy Burns	183	Bill Lang	187	KO 6		Melbourne, Australia	Hugh McIntosh
12/26/08	Jack Johnson	192	Tommy Burns	168	TKO 14		Rushcutter's Bay,Sydney	Hugh McIntosh
3/10/09	Jack Johnson		Victor McLaglen		ND 6	—	Vancouver, B.C.	
5/19/09	Jack Johnson	205	Philadelphia Jack O'Brien	161	ND 6	—	Philadelphia, Pa.	
6/30/09	Jack Johnson	207	Tony Ross	214	ND 6	—	Pittsburgh, Pa.	
9/ 9/09	Jack Johnson	209	Al Kaufman	191	ND 10	—	San Francisco, Calif.	Ed Smith
10/16/09	Jack Johnson	205½	Stanley Ketchel	170¼	KO 12		Colma, Calif.	Jack Welch
7/ 4/10	Jack Johnson	208	James J. Jeffries	227	KO 15	2:20	Reno, Nevada	Tex Rickard
7/ 4/12	Jack Johnson	195½	Fireman Jim Flynn	175	TKO 9		Las Vegas, New Mexico	Ed Smith
11/28/13	Jack Johnson		Andrew Sproul		KO 2		Paris, France	Georges Carpentier
12/19/13	Jack Johnson		Battling Jim Johnson		draw 10	—	Paris, France	Emil Maitrot
6/27/14	Jack Johnson	221	Frank Moran	203	ref 20	—	Paris, France	Georges Carpentier
12/15/14	Jack Johnson		Jack Murray		KO 3		Buenos Aires, Argentina	
4/ 5/15	Jess Willard	230	Jack Johnson	205½	KO 26	1:26	Havana, Cuba	Jack Welch
3/25/16	Jess Willard	225	Frank Moran	203	ND 10	—	Madison Sq. Garden	Charley White
7/ 4/19	Jack Dempsey	187	Jess Willard	245	TKO 4	*	Toledo, Ohio	Ollie Pecord
9/ 6/20	Jack Dempsey	185	Billy Miske	187	KO 3	1:13	Benton Harbor, Mich.	James Dougherty
12/14/20	Jack Dempsey	188¼	Bill Brennan	197	KO 12	1:57	Madison Sq. Garden	Johnny Haukaup
7/ 2/21	Jack Dempsey	188	Georges Carpentier	172	KO 4	1:16	Jersey City, N.J.	Harry Ertle
7/ 4/23	Jack Dempsey	188	Tommy Gibbons	175½	ref 15	—	Shelby, Montana	James Dougherty
9/14/23	Jack Dempsey	192½	Luis Angel Firpo	216½	KO 2	0:57	Polo Grounds, New York	Jack Gallagher
9/23/26	Gene Tunney	189½	Jack Dempsey	190	unan 10	—	Sesquicentennial Stad., Phila.	Pop Reilly
9/22/27	Gene Tunney	189½	Jack Dempsey	192½	unan 10	—	Soldiers' Field, Chicago	Dave Barry
7/26/28	Gene Tunney	192	Tom Heeney	203½	TKO 11	2:52	Yankee Stadium, New York	Ed Forbes
6/12/30	Max Schmeling	188	Jack Sharkey	197	WF 4	**	Yankee Stadium, New York	Jim Crowley
7/ 3/31	Max Schmeling	189	Young Stribling	186½	TKO 15	2:46	Municipal Stadium, Cleveland	George Blake
6/21/32	Jack Sharkey	205	Max Schmeling	188	split 15	—	M.S.G. Bowl, L.I. City	Ed (Gunboat) Smith
6/29/33	Primo Carnera	260½	Jack Sharkey	201	KO 6	2:27	M.S.G. Bowl, L.I. City	Arthur Donovan
10/22/33	Primo Carnera	259½	Paulino Uzcudun	229¼	unan 15	—	Rome, Italy	Maurice Nicord
3/ 1/34	Primo Carnera	270	Tommy Loughran	184	unan 15	—	Miami, Florida	Leo Shea
6/14/34	Max Baer	209½	Primo Carnera	263¼	TKO 11	2:16	M.S.G. Bowl, L.I. City	Arthur Donovan
6/13/35	James J. Braddock	193¾	Max Baer	209½	unan 15	—	M.S.G. Bowl, L.I. City	Jack McAvoy
6/22/37	Joe Louis	197¼	James J. Braddock	197	KO 8	1:10	Comiskey Park, Chicago	Tommy Thomas
8/30/37	Joe Louis	197	Tommy Farr	204¼	unan 15	—	Yankee Stadium, New York	Arthur Donovan

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS

Date	Winner	Weight	Loser	Weight	Result	Time KO	Site	Referee
2/23/38	Joe Louis	200	Nathan Mann	193½	KO 3	1:56	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Donovan
4/ 1/38	Joe Louis	202½	Harry Thomas	196	KO 5	2:50	Chicago Stadium	Dave Miller
6/22/38	Joe Louis	198¾	Max Schmeling	193	KO 1	2:04	Yankee Stadium, New York	Arthur Donovan
1/25/39	Joe Louis	200¼	John Henry Lewis	180¾	KO 1	2:29	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Donovan
4/17/39	Joe Louis	201¼	Jack Roper	204¾	KO 1	2:20	Wrigley Field, L.A.	George Blake
6/28/39	Joe Louis	200¾	Tony Galento	233¾	TKO 4	2:29	Yankee Stadium, New York	Arthur Donovan
9/20/39	Joe Louis	200	Bob Pastor	183	KO 11	0:38	Briggs Stadium, Detroit	Sam Hennessey
2/ 9/40	Joe Louis	203	Arturo Godoy	202	split 15	—	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Donovan
3/29/40	Joe Louis	201½	Johnny Paychek	187½	KO 2	0:44	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Donovan
6/20/40	Joe Louis	199	Arturo Godoy	201¼	TKO 8	1:24	Yankee Stadium, New York	Billy Cavanaugh
12/16/40	Joe Louis	202¼	Al McCoy	180¾	TKO 6	*	Boston Garden	Johnny Martin
1/31/41	Joe Louis	202½	Red Burman	188	KO 5	2:49	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Donovan
2/17/41	Joe Louis	203½	Gus Dorazio	193½	KO 2	1:30	Convention Hall, Phila.	Irvin Kutcher
3/21/41	Joe Louis	202	Abe Simon	254½	TKO 13	1:20	Olympia Arena, Detroit	Sam Hennessey
4/ 8/41	Joe Louis	203½	Tony Musto	199½	TKO 9	1:36	St. Louis Arena	Arthur Donovan
5/23/41	Joe Louis	201½	Buddy Baer	237½	W dis 7	**	Griffith Stadium, Wash., D.C.	Arthur Donovan
6/18/41	Joe Louis	199½	Billy Conn	174	KO 13	2:58	Polo Grounds, New York	Eddie Joseph
9/29/41	Joe Louis	202¼	Lou Nova	202½	TKO 6	2:59	Polo Grounds, New York	Arthur Donovan
1/ 9/42	Joe Louis	206¾	Buddy Baer	250	KO 1	2:56	Madison Sq. Garden	Frank Fullam
3/27/42	Joe Louis	207½	Abe Simon	255½	KO 6	0:16	Madison Sq. Garden	Eddie Joseph
6/ 9/46	Joe Louis	207	Billy Conn	187	KO 8	2:19	Yankee Stadium, New York	Eddie Joseph
9/18/46	Joe Louis	211	Tami Mauriello	198½	KO 1	2:09	Yankee Stadium, New York	Arthur Donovan
12/ 5/47	Joe Louis	211½	Jersey Joe Walcott	194½	split 15	—	Madison Sq. Garden	Ruby Goldstein
6/25/48	Joe Louis	213½	Jersey Joe Walcott	194¾	KO 11	2:56	Yankee Stadium, New York	Frank Fullam
† 6/22/49	Ezzard Charles	181¾	Jersey Joe Walcott	195½	unan 15	—	Comiskey Park, Chicago	Dave Miller
† 8/10/49	Ezzard Charles	180	Gus Lesnevich	182	TKO 8	*	Yankee Stadium, New York	Ruby Goldstein
†10/14/49	Ezzard Charles	182	Pat Valentino	188½	KO 8	0:35	Cow Palace, San Francisco	Jack Downey
† 8/15/50	Ezzard Charles	183¼	Freddie Beshore	184½	TKO 14	2:53	Memorial Auditorium, Buffalo	Barney Felix
9/27/50	Ezzard Charles	184½	Joe Louis	218	unan 15	—	Yankee Stadium, New York	Mark Conn
12/ 5/50	Ezzard Charles	185	Nick Barone	178½	KO 11	2:06	Cincinnati Gardens	Tommy Warndorf
1/12/51	Ezzard Charles	185	Lee Oma	193	TKO 10	1:19	Madison Sq. Garden	Ruby Goldstein
3/ 7/51	Ezzard Charles	186	Jersey Joe Walcott	193	unan 15	—	Olympia Arena, Detroit	Clarence Rosen
5/30/51	Ezzard Charles	182	Joey Maxim	181½	unan 15	—	Chicago Stadium	Frank Gilmer
7/18/51	Jersey Joe Walcott	194	Ezzard Charles	182	KO 7	0:55	Forbes Field, Pittsburgh	Buck McTiernan
6/ 5/52	Jersey Joe Walcott	196	Ezzard Charles	191½	unan 15	—	Municipal Stadium, Phila.	Zack Clayton
9/23/52	Rocky Marciano	184	Jersey Joe Walcott	196	KO 13	0:43	Philadelphia Stadium	Charley Daggert
5/15/53	Rocky Marciano	184½	Jersey Joe Walcott	197¾	KO 1	2:25	Chicago Stadium	Frank Sikora
9/24/53	Rocky Marciano	185	Roland LaStarza	184¾	TKO 11	1:31	Polo Grounds, New York	Ruby Goldstein
6/17/54	Rocky Marciano	187½	Ezzard Charles	185½	unan 15	—	Yankee Stadium, New York	Ruby Goldstein
9/17/54	Rocky Marciano	187	Ezzard Charles	192½	KO 8	2:36	Yankee Stadium, New York	Al Berl
5/16/55	Rocky Marciano	189	Don Cockell	205	TKO 9	0:59	Kezar Stadium, San Francisco	Frankie Brown
9/21/55	Rocky Marciano	188¼	Archie Moore	188	KO 9	1:19	Yankee Stadium, New York	Harry Kessler
11/30/56	Floyd Patterson	182¼	Archie Moore	187¾	KO 5	2:27	Chicago Stadium	Frank Sikora
7/29/57	Floyd Patterson	184	Tommy Jackson	192½	TKO 10	1:52	Polo Grounds, New York	Ruby Goldstein
8/22/57	Floyd Patterson	187¼	Pete Rademacher	202	KO 6	2:57	Sick's Stadium, Seattle	Tommy Loughran
8/18/58	Floyd Patterson	184½	Roy Harris	194	TKO 13	*	Wrigley Field, L.A.	Mushy Callahan
5/ 1/59	Floyd Patterson	182½	Brian London	206	KO 11	0:51	Fairgrounds Coliseum, Indianapolis	Frank Sikora
6/26/59	Ingemar Johansson	196	Floyd Patterson	182	TKO 3	2:03	Yankee Stadium, New York	Ruby Goldstein
6/20/60	Floyd Patterson	190	Ingemar Johansson	194¾	KO 5	1:51	Polo Grounds, New York	Arthur Mercante
3/13/61	Floyd Patterson	194¾	Ingemar Johansson	206½	KO 6	2:45	Convention Hall, Miami Beach	Billy Regan
12/ 4/61	Floyd Patterson	188½	Tom McNeeley	197	KO 4	2:51	Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto	Jersey Joe Walcott
9/25/62	Sonny Liston	214	Floyd Patterson	189	KO 1	2:06	Comiskey Park, Chicago	Frank Sikora
7/22/63	Sonny Liston	215	Floyd Patterson	194½	KO 1	2:10	Convention Center, Las Vegas	Harry Krause
2/25/64	Cassius Clay	210½	Sonny Liston	218	TKO 7	*	Convention Hall, Miami Beach	Barney Felix
† 3/ 5/65	Ernest Terrell	199	Eddie Machen	192	unan 15	—	Int. Amphitheatre, Chicago	Bernard Weisman
5/25/65	Muhammad Ali	206	Sonny Liston	215¼	KO 1	1:52	St. Dominic's, Lewiston	Jersey Joe Walcott
†11/ 1/65	Ernest Terrell	206	George Chuvalo	209	unan 15	—	Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto	Sammy Luftspring
11/22/65	Muhammad Ali	210	Floyd Patterson	196¾	TKO 12	2:18	Convention Center, Las Vegas	Harry Krause

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS

Date	Winner	Weight	Loser	Weight	Result	Time KO	Site	Referee
3/29/66	Muhammad Ali	214½	George Chuvalo	216	unan 15	—	Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto	Jackie Silvers
5/21/66	Muhammad Ali	201½	Henry Cooper	188	TKO 6	1:38	Arsenal Stadium, London	George Smith
† 6/28/66	Ernest Terrell	209½	Doug Jones	187½	unan 15	—	Sam Houston Coliseum, Houston	Ernie Taylor
8/ 6/66	Muhammad Ali	209½	Brian London	201½	KO 3	1:40	Earl's Court, London	Harry Gibbs
9/10/66	Muhammad Ali	203½	Karl Mildenberger	194¼	TKO 12	1:30	Frankfurt Walk Stadium	Teddy Waltham
11/14/66	Muhammad Ali	212¾	Cleveland Williams	210½	TKO 3	1:08	Houston Astrodome	Harry Kessler
2/ 6/67	Muhammad Ali	212¼	Ernest Terrell	212½	unan 15	—	Houston Astrodome	Harry Kessler
3/22/67	Muhammad Ali	211½	Zora Folley	202½	KO 7	1:48	Madison Sq. Garden	John LoBianco
§ 3/ 4/68	Joe Frazier	204½	Buster Mathis	243½	TKO 11	2:33	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Mercante
† 4/27/68	Jimmy Ellis	197	Jerry Quarry	195	maj 15	—	Oakland Coliseum	Elmer Costa
§ 6/24/68	Joe Frazier	203½	Manuel Ramos	208	TKO 2	3:00	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Mercante
† 9/14/68	Jimmy Ellis	198	Floyd Patterson	188	ref 15	—	Stockholm, Sweden	Harold Valan
§12/10/68	Joe Frazier	203	Oscar Bonavena	207	unan 15	—	Spectrum, Philadelphia	Joe Sweeney
§ 4/22/69	Joe Frazier	204½	Dave Zyglewicz	190½	KO 1	1:36	Houston Coliseum	Jimmy Webb
§ 6/23/69	Joe Frazier	203½	Jerry Quarry	198½	TKO 8	*	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Mercante
2/16/70	Joe Frazier	205	Jimmy Ellis	201	TKO 5	*	Madison Sq. Garden	Tony Perez
11/18/70	Joe Frazier	209	Bob Foster	188	KO 2	0:49	Cobo Hall, Detroit	Tom Briscoe
3/ 8/71	Joe Frazier	205½	Muhammad Ali	215	unan 15	—	Madison Sq. Garden	Arthur Mercante
1/15/72	Joe Frazier	215½	Terry Daniels	195	TKO 4	1:45	New Orleans, La.	Herman Dutreix
5/26/72	Joe Frazier	217½	Ron Stander	218	TKO 5	*	Omaha, Nebraska	Zack Clayton
1/22/73	George Foreman	217½	Joe Frazier	214	TKO 2	1:35	Kingston, Jamaica	Arthur Mercante
9/ 1/73	George Foreman	219½	Jose (King) Roman	196½	KO 1	2:00	Military Arts Hall, Tokyo	Jay Edson
3/26/74	George Foreman	224¾	Ken Norton	212¾	TKO 2	2:00	Caracas, Venezuela	Jimmy Rondeau
10/30/74	Muhammad Ali	216½	George Foreman	220	KO 8	2:58	Kinshasa, Zaire	Zack Clayton
3/24/75	Muhammad Ali	223½	Chuck Wepner	225	TKO 15	2:41	Coliseum, Cleveland, Ohio	Tony Perez
5/16/75	Muhammad Ali	224½	Ron Lyle	219	TKO 11	1:08	Convention Center, Las Vegas	Ferd Hernandez
7/ 1/75	Muhammad Ali	224½	Joe Bugner	230	unan 15	—	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Takeo Ugo
10/ 1/75	Muhammad Ali	224½	Joe Frazier	215	TKO 15	*	Manila, Philippines	Carlos Padilla
2/20/76	Muhammad Ali	226	Jean Pierre Coopman	206	KO 5	2:46	Roberto Clemente Coliseum	Ismael Quinones Falu
4/30/76	Muhammad Ali	230	Jimmy Young	209	unan 15	—	Capital Centre, Landover	Tom Kelly
5/24/76	Muhammad Ali	220	Richard Dunn	206½	TKO 5	2:05	Munich, Germany	Herbert Thomser
9/28/76	Muhammad Ali	221	Ken Norton	217½	unan 15	—	Yankee Stadium, New York	Arthur Mercante
5/16/77	Muhammad Ali	221¼	Alfredo Evangelista	209¼	unan 15	—	Capital Centre, Landover	Harry Cecchini
9/29/77	Muhammad Ali	225	Earnie Shavers	211¼	unan 15	—	Madison Sq. Garden	John LoBianco
2/15/78	Leon Spinks	197¼	Muhammad Ali	224¼	split 15	—	Hilton Pavilion, Las Vegas	David Pearl
‡ 6/ 9/78	Larry Holmes	209	Ken Norton	220	split 15	—	Caesars Palace, Las Vegas	Mills Lane
9/15/78	Muhammad Ali	221	Leon Spinks	201	unan 15	—	Superdome, New Orleans	Lucien Joubert
‡11/10/78	Larry Holmes	214	Alfredo Evangelista	208¼	KO 7	2:14	Caesars Palace, Las Vegas	Richard Green
‡ 3/23/79	Larry Holmes	214	Osvaldo Ocasio	207	TKO 7	2:38	Hilton Pavilion, Las Vegas	Carlos Padilla
‡ 6/22/79	Larry Holmes	215	Mike Weaver	202	TKO 12	0:44	Madison Sq. Garden	Harold Valan
‡ 9/28/79	Larry Holmes	210	Earnie Shavers	211	TKO 11	2:00	Caesars Palace, Las Vegas	David Pearl

*Loser failed to answer bell for round indicated. **Loser was disqualified at end of round.
ref=referee's decision (sole arbiter)

†NBA (later WBA) world heavyweight title bout
‡WBC world heavyweight title bout
§New York State Athletic Commission world heavyweight title bout

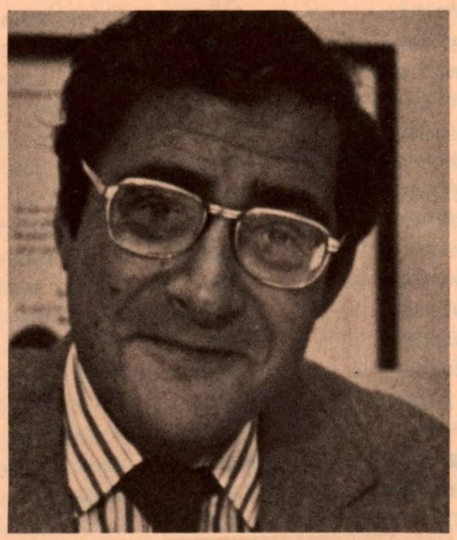
The British Board of Boxing Control (BBBC) designated the June 6, 1950 bout between Bruce Woodcock (England) and Lee Savold (U.S.) as for the world heavyweight title. Savold stopped Woodcock in the fourth round at White City Stadium, London, and was recognized as world champion by the BBBC until knocked out by Joe Louis in six rounds in Madison Square Garden on June 15, 1951. The BBBC then acknowledged Ezzard Charles, who had defeated Louis on September 27, 1950, as world champion.

Muhammad Ali was known as Cassius Clay when he stopped Sonny Liston in Miami Beach on February 25, 1964.

The World Boxing Council (WBC) recognized Ken Norton as world champion when Leon Spinks declined to meet him before the latter's return bout with Muhammad Ali. Norton had won a fifteen-round split decision over Jimmy Young at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on November 5, 1977.

THE POWER BROKERS: BOB ARUM AND DON KING

THE MEN WHO CONTROL BOXING'S THRONES—AND COUNTING ROOMS



By BARNEY NAGLER

To keep the rest of the country happy, Bob Arum and Don King, fight promoters, maintain ever-normal mines of contempt for each other in offices located in New York City's silk-stocking district. Other promoters—Tex Rickard, Mike Jacobs, Jim Norris — ran their shops from the West Side of town, in or adjacent to Madison Square Garden.

This fact of geography may not mean much to the populace of Paducah or Peoria, but it is significant along Broadway, where it is taken as an indication that Arum and King have demeaned the game by giving it a touch of class.

Arum's office is in a commercial tower on Park Avenue, which is like grazing cattle in the gardens at Versailles, while King works out of a four-story former art gallery on East 69th Street, off Madison Avenue. Both are in the best part of town, near high-class eating joints, United Nations embassies, and top-dollar call girls. Tiffany's is two blocks from Arum's headquarters. The proximity is an accident of real estate.

Barney Nagler, author of several books on boxing, is the sports columnist for The Daily Racing Form.

Yet nobody in the boxing world would change a thing. Without Arum and King, the game would be a dull charade played out in dank fight clubs in remote alleys, without recourse to belly laughs.

Ask one about the other and the issue is a torrent of self-righteousness. When Arum was in the process of promoting the World Boxing Association championship bout in Pretoria, South Africa, between John Tate, American, and Gerrie Coetzee, Afrikaaner, King said Arum was below dignity. "I don't want to think about him," King said. "The South African thing is deplorable. It is offensive to black, white or brown people."

A reporter with connections in boxing brought word of King's commentary to Arum.

"I always laugh at King," Arum said. "He says it's deplorable. Hey, he was going to promote a light-heavyweight championship fight in South Africa between Foster and Galindez. Remember? It got knocked out of the box when they found Foster couldn't see out of one eye. Hey, King is green with envy."

If this riposte seemed a low-comedy burlesque, it was in keeping with the constant sniping between Arum and King. Both work on the supposition that sportswriters are the most credulous of mortals, next to guys who buy tip sheets at race tracks. Sportswriters never squawk if they are given information not in keeping with fact. If a man is colorful, he is accepted in the lodge. Neither Arum nor King is dull.

Once, in the incredible past, they were partners. This melding of sheep and lion reached a critical phase when it came time to count the profits from Muhammad Ali's third bout with Joe Frazier—the "Thrilla in Manila."

What happened in that instance, in Arum's term, was a "misreading of the situation."

"Before Ali and Frazier were to fight in Manila, I thought King had Ali locked up," Arum said recently. "He was promoting all of Ali's fights, or most of them, so I assumed he had Ali for the fight with Frazier. Actually, he didn't have Ali tied up and when I talked with Herbert Muhammad (Ali's manager), he was very mad at me for misreading the situation.

"Well, I was put into the deal, but I wouldn't get involved with King beyond making a flat-out deal. I took a guaranteed $300,000, with a percentage of the gross. King screwed me on the gross. When he did

this, he also screwed the Philippine government, which can afford it a lot better than I can."

"Did you do anything about it?"

"I'm still suing King for an accounting of the gross. I vowed at the time of the fight that I'd never get into another deal with him. He handles his business the way they do in the numbers game, from which he comes. He does not know much about boxing, but he knows even less about business."

"Does he have any assets?"

"Money? I wouldn't know that."

"No, assets in terms of personality, as a promoter."

"Oh, yes. He has an overwhelming personality and a great gift of gab. He's a great B.S. artist, a great con guy."

Some persons may wonder why Arum, a graduate of Harvard Law School, does not keep his own counsel on his attitude toward King. But those who know him sense a compulsion as strong as the drive of a spawning salmon to swim upstream. Mention King and Arum is off in deep water.

Not that King is a silent, solitary brooder. Despite all his foresight, he can be made to explode by the mere mention of Arum's name. He has described his rival as a "white slavemaster" and a "television peddler" who sells time on the tube, not fights in the ring.

When King says this, Arum responds, "I was promoting while he was in prison. What he's saying is that he's no television salesman."

What Arum means is that King practices a form of "transference." King has defined Arum as a "master of 'trickeration.' "

"Isn't that funny?" Arum holds. "He uses the term to describe me, but it suits him better. 'Trickeration' tells you exactly what he is; tells you exactly what he has done. It is a classical case of self-description."

It is Arum's contention that King, as a promoter, has violated the law in New York State and in Nevada by owning pieces of fighters, particularly 25 per cent of Larry Holmes' earnings.

"How do you know?"

"I know," Arum said, "because Richie Giachetti told me, and he's *supposed* to be Holmes' manager. He owns pieces of other fighters, and when somebody asks if he gets a piece of the purses, he says, 'Me? My son Carl gets part of the purse. He's the manager.' New York closes its eyes to this. The Commission is derelict. If it happened in the old days there would have been an investigation. Let me tell you, this is one of the biggest scandals in boxing."

Arum may well be the foremost promoter in boxing, but he has little rapport with history. And it may be that, in his pursuit of boxing's gold, he has strayed too far from the law business. Everybody knows that it is common for a lawyer who has just become a public official to turn over his practice to a partner. By extension, King, as a promoter, "gives" his son his fighters.

When Al Weill was both the matchmaker at Madison Square Garden and the proprietor of Rocky Marciano, he "gave" his son, Marty Weill, the fighter. "Who should I give him to 'cept my own flesh and blood?" he asked. It took years for the New York State Athletic commission to catch Weill in the act.

Arum denies he has a piece of any fighter. "I have never done that, I never will," he said. He was, then, just back from South Africa, where he had wrestled, one fall to a finish, with South African officials over the policy of apartheid, or racial separation, in the purported Republic. And, in his view, he had won.

What he accomplished, by all accounts, was to gain assurance from the operators of the Loftus Versfield Stadium in Pretoria that spectators at the Tate-Coetzee bout would be integrated. Moreover, he had exacted a pledge from the Northern Transvaal Rugby Union that segregation henceforth would not be practiced in the stadium, even after Tate and Coetzee had settled the issue of WBA heavyweight primacy.

Though seated, he was strutting. He had accomplished a victory on the side of social justice, he insisted, and predicted a stirring battle between Tate and Coetzee.

He described the boxer from Arkansas, by way of Knoxville, Tennessee, as "a young man in whom the people are interested because he is a fresh face."

Of Coetzee, he said, "It was a great thing knocking out Leon Spinks." If he beats Tate, he will be a worthwhile successor to the great Muhammad Ali.

"The people sense the quality of this heavyweight championship fight. That is why King is jealous."

His introduction of King in this equation was pro forma, as predictable as "trickeration" in boxing.

"What's King got in that Holmes-Shavers bout but a warmed-over match between two guys who went 12 rounds before and put people to sleep, one chasing, the other guy running, and people sleeping. Is that a title bout?" he asked, pleased with himself, his beady eyes growing even smaller behind glasses in his round, swarthy face.

Arum is of a build referred to at Brooks Brothers as "easy to fit, with renovations," a 34 short, perhaps, which hardly makes him a match for King, who is as tall as a box car and just as wide, and topped off by a shock of hair standing high, as if galvanized by fright. The short and long of

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it is that Arum and King are unbalanced bookends.

Anyway, there was Arum behind his desk. On the wall to his right, in his Park Avenue office, there were arrayed sets of splendidly bound law books. On a lower shelf were three books listing the graduates of Harvard Law School, which sent Arum forth in 1956 to peddle his forensic powers.

He became an expert in tax law and worked not only in the U.S. Attorney's office in New York but as a member of several prestigious firms. By 1965, nine years after he left Cambridge with diploma in hot little hand, he was promoting a world heavyweight championship match between Muhammad Ali and George Chuvalo.

At about the same time, King was hard at work in the field of mathematics in the Haight section of Cleveland. Although mathematics is defined as an abstract science, it is a very practical matter in King's mind. He owned and operated a numbers game, in the course of which he was arrested for manslaughter involving a colleague he regarded as deceitful. He did some four years in an Ohio slammer and when he emerged, he drifted into boxing. In boxing, nobody asks questions. Nor are answers given.

His advent on the Madison Square Garden scene was in 1973, when along with various other members of society he was operating an Ohio heavyweight named Earnie Shavers. Teddy Brenner gave Shavers a bout with Jimmy Ellis, a former fractional heavyweight champion, and Shavers flattened his victim in the first round. King elected to put Shavers in with Jerry Quarry next and exacted a good payday from the Garden.

One afternoon he turned up at a luncheon at the Playboy Club in New York, where Shavers and Quarry were in training, and within earshot of a bevy of Bunnies delivered himself of an oration which caused an outbreak of embarrassment. Be assured that he was neither obscene nor profane. He seldom is. He was simply long in wind and short in logic.

Even before King spoke, Eddie Dooley, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, breezed through a speech in which he commented on Arthur Brisbane's hypothesis that a gorilla could have beaten both Dempsey and Carpentier, or two such other blokes.

WHO'S WHO IN THE ARUM-KING CONNECTIONS

	ARUM		KING	
Heavyweights	John Tate Gerrie Coetzee Kallie Knoetze		Larry Holmes Earnie Shavers Scott LeDoux Mike Dokes	Mike Weaver Jimmy Young Kevin Isaacs
Light Heavyweights	Matthew Saad Muhammad Victor Galindez Mate Parlov Marvin Johnson	Marvin Camel John Conteh* Mike Rossman		
Middleweights	Vito Antuofermo Marvin Hagler Hugo Corro Alan Minter*			
Junior Middleweights	Maurice Hope* Rocky Mattioli* Gert Steyn Ayub Kalule			
Welterweights	Wilfred Benitez		Robert Duran	
Junior Welterweights			Saoul Mamby Miguel Montilla Esteban DeJesus Jo Kimpuani	
Lightweights	Jim Watt*			
Featherweights			*Wilfredo Gomez	

* Fighters whose contractual obligations — whether verbal, written, or otherwise — have been disputed by members of the opposing organization.

Then it was King's turn, and his outpouring of oratory exceeded Dooley's in length and hyperbole. Resplendent in frilly shirting and dinner coat, he said the "hopes of every little kid in Ohio rests on the shoulders of Earnie Shavers."

Brenner got up and headed for the exit, saying as he went, "I got to go make a match. I got a date with a gorilla."

A moment later Quarry left his chair in an attempt to escape. "I don't have to stand for this bull," the fighter said, fleeing.

King did not miss a rhetorical beat. He went on and on; and right there the world should have taken warning. A fortnight later, Quarry knocked out Shavers in one round. Another fight man might have taken the gas pipe. Not King, who, as Al Weill might have said, lets trouble roll off his back the way a duck takes to water.

Only short months later he stepped over his fighter's prone body to assume the role of a promoter and, in time, was running Ali's title-grabbing bout with George Foreman in Zaire. Not long thereafter, he was proclaiming his status as the world's foremost promoter from a posh aviary on the 57th floor of the RCA Building, from which, on a clear day, he could see forever.

He ran a tournament purported to be for American championships on ABC-TV. It foundered in a sea of deceit and chicanery. People in boxing said he was finished. He fired a couple of his associates and, before long, was doing business again with ABC-TV. He was no more troubled than when he had emerged from Marion Penitentiary.

Now he is Madison Square Garden's partner in boxing promotions, a non-exclusive arrangement which, at this writing, has produced four unprofitable shows in the famous arena. When he is asked about this, King draws himself up to the tip of his elongated hair and says, "Never met a man like Sonny Werblin. What I'm doing in the Garden, I'm doing for Sonny. He's a dynamite guy, a fun guy."

When he says this, cynics' ears strain and hearts pound. Does he mean "doing it *for* Sonny" or "doing it *to* Sonny?"

Arum, too, has promoted in partnership with the Garden, but the chance of another accommodation is remote. He had a deal to put Mike Rossman into the Garden with Aldo Traversaro, of Italy, in a WBA light-heavyweight title bout. A contretemps ensued over a split of the swag—or some such thing—and Arum took the fight to the Spectrum in Philadelphia instead.

There, when prodded by journalists, Arum said it was difficult to do business

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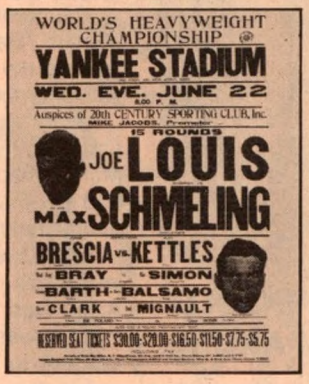

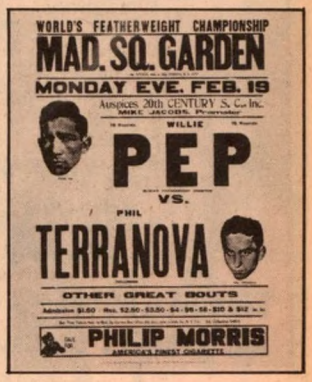

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with Werblin because the boss of Madison Square Garden Center is "never sober after 9 A.M."

Usually, when he commits a gaucherie, Arum apologizes. He has been known to ask a cop's pardon for crossing a street against a red light. But he has yet to proffer his hand to Werblin in abject acknowledgment of his egregious social blunder. Obviously, Werblin cannot draw a cent at the gate.

Leon Spinks can—or could, before Gerrie Coetzee banged him out in South Africa—and the promoter publicly apologized to him after Spinks lost the title to Ali in New Orleans. In the aftermath of that bout, Arum accused Spinks of carousing and training on whiskey and women.

Later, at a luncheon in New York, Arum apologized to Spinks in the presence of an array of sports reporters. Nobody even would think of suggesting that Arum did so because he needed Spinks to fill out his (WBA) tournament to determine a successor to the retiring Muhammad Ali.

In boxing, when a man speaks the truth, he lives to regret his exercise in candor. Long after Shavers had split with King, he was asked, while training for his exciting 15-round bout with Ali, why he had walked away from King, his former guide and preceptor.

"Because he stole my money," Shavers said. "He robbed me. He's nothing but a crook."

King, as Arum might have done, accepted the description of his character without a smidgen of anger. When there was a need to employ Shavers first against Holmes, then against Ken Norton, then against Holmes the second time, he spoke of Shavers as a shining spirit, a credit to his family, "a wonderful human being." Shavers did not weep with remorse, though he should have.

Whether he likes it or not, King is one with Arum as a practical man. They are different and yet alike, one as the other. Boxing deserves both, for without them it would be a dreary time in the game.

Shake hands now and come out fighting.

THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING . . . OR ARUM

He operates with the smoothness of a hustler, the charm of a schoolboy, the coolness of a lawyer and the confidence of a salesman who knows he will not be rejected. Ronald "Butch" Lewis is like a chess master — he always is several steps ahead of you.

"It comes from the streets of Philadelphia, where I did a lot of growing up," says Lewis, who was born into a middle income family 32 years ago.

"I was always gettin' into trouble. You know the story, always gettin' my head mixed up in B.S. So my folks sent me to live with my grandparents in New Jersey. But I was wild and had to run. I kept going back to spend time in the streets of Philadelphia with my buddies. But in school I was okay. I even had a scholarship offer to go to West Point. But do you know what I did? I chose being a hustler in the streets over being a Cadet at West Point. Shows you where my head was at when I was 18!"

That was just about the time Lewis' father joined a syndicate of investors in the sponsoring of a heavyweight fighter. The syndicate was called "Cloverlay." The fighter's name was Joe Frazier.

"I haven't been the same since," joked Lewis from his three-room office on the 15th floor of a mid-town Manhattan office building.

Little did Lewis dream then that one day he would be the promoter of a world heavyweight title fight.

"Muhammad Ali vs. Richard Dunn in Munich, Germany," recalled Lewis. "I worked my tail off for that bout, but it still lost money."

Lewis' hard work did not go unnoticed. Both Ali and his manager, Herbert Muhammad, realized the work Lewis had put into the promotion of the fight, and were impressed.

After the fight, Lewis joined forces with Ali's former lawyer, Bob Arum. Arum was President of Top Rank, Inc., "which was all but out of business," according to Lewis. "All Arum had was a small office, a desk and a telephone. He had had a falling out with Ali and Herbert, and wanted to get vengeance. That's the kind of person he is. He knew I had Frazier's ear, and tried to convince me to bring both parties together. If I had delivered both men to him, you can bet he would have thought of every trick, every angle, to give Frazier the edge. But as much as I love and respect Joe, I play fair. I wouldn't go for it. I don't think Arum ever forgave me. We lost the Ali-Frazier 'Thrilla in Manila' to Don King."

Lewis stayed with Top Rank through September 1978, helping to promote both Ali-Spinks fights. After Ali-Spinks II, charges of racism, bigotry, unethical business practices and slander flew between the fighters, Louisiana Sports, Inc. (one of the promotional groups) and Top Rank. But the main event was between Arum and Lewis.

The President of Top Rank claimed $100,000 had disappeared from the Superdome box office. He looked at Lewis. Lewis called him a liar. Arum said, "You're fired!" Lewis said, "I quit!"

Less than three months later, "B. Lewis Productions, Inc." put on its first boxing card, a successful venture in Westchester, New York. Featured were 1976 Olympic champions Michael Spinks and Leo Randolph. Lewis was on his way as major boxing promoter.

He is not without his problems, however. Between Arum and King, nearly every champion and top contender is signed to a multi-fight contract.

"How can I make a fight when everybody is signed?" moaned Lewis. "But I can't complain too much. I've got Greg Page signed to an exclusive contract. Nobody can promote Greg without coming to me first."

How exclusive is the contract between Page and Lewis?

"Let's just say it's until death do us part," chuckled Lewis. "Look, I'm giving myself security by signing a fighter to an exclusive contract. Heck, I spend so much time and money building him into a star. I deserve to reap some of the long-term benefits. Arum and King, they've got today's stars. Me, I've got the stars of tomorrow. And with Page, I've got the Rolls Royce of them all! Soon, all of Arum and King's stars will burn out. Then mine will shine!"

His future?

"They hear me coming up behind them," says Lewis. "They know what I want. I don't care for either one of them, but at least I respect King. He's like a tough fighter. Knock him down and he'll come back even stronger. Arum, he'll quit if the pressure is on. He knows he can always go back and practice law. He's shrewd, devious. With King, it's not always the bottom line. It's ego. He likes being a winner, being praised, putting on a great show."

Is there room for one more at the top? Maybe. And maybe that one more will be Butch Lewis.

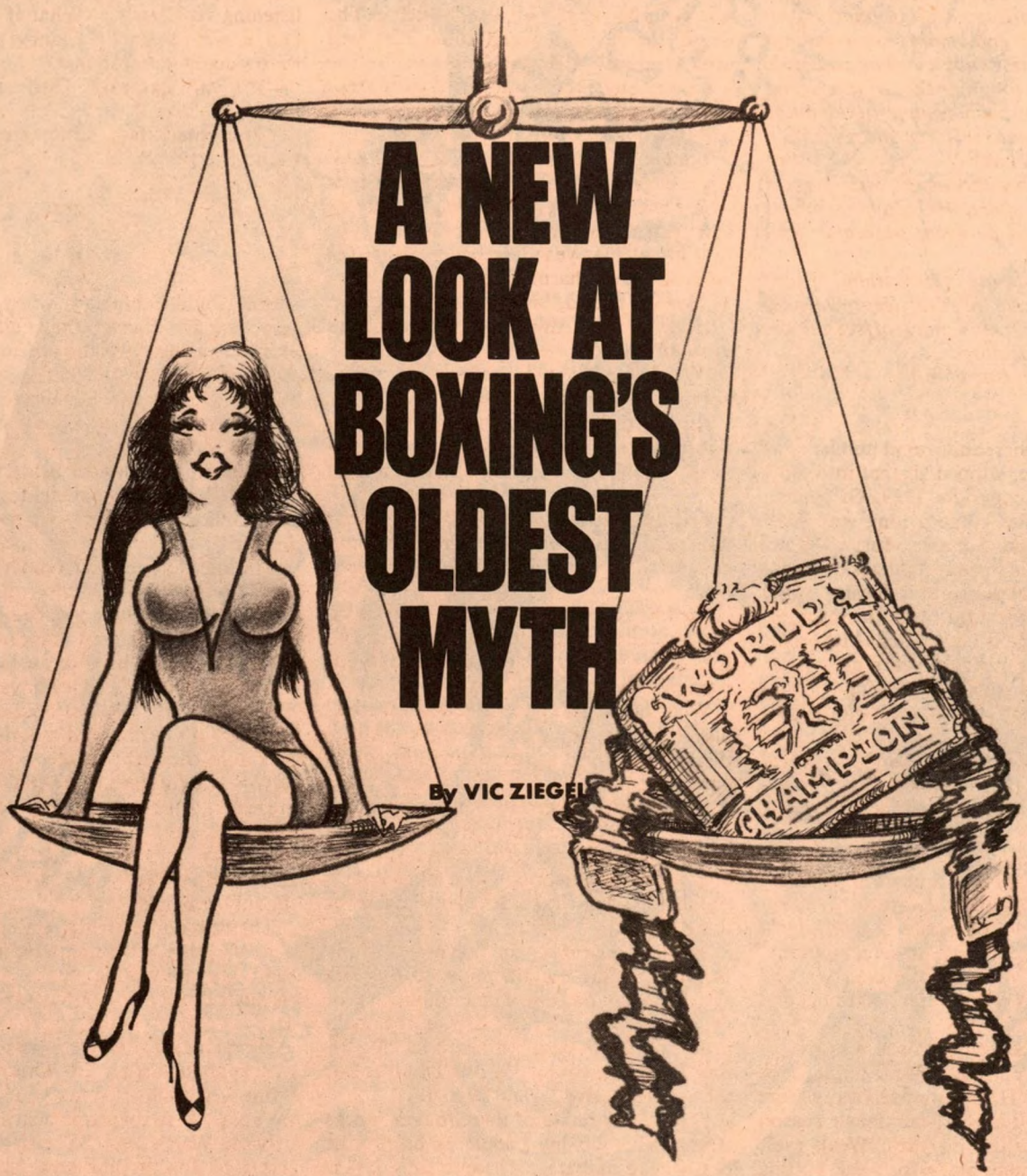
—Randy Gordon

WHOEVER CONTROLS THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION — CONTROLS THE FIGHT GAME!
WBC
WBA
THAT'S ME!
SOME-ONE CALL MY NAME?
Hea
BOOM
DON KING
ONE THING IS CERTAIN, THE UNFRIENDLY-RIVAL PROMOTERS ARE COLORFUL CHARACTERS!
BOB ARUM
"...TOO BAD THEY BOTH HAVE THE SAME FAVORITE COLOR — GREEN!
BOXING
CHARLIE McGILL

IS THERE FIGHT AFTER SEX?

A NEW LOOK AT BOXING'S OLDEST MYTH

By VIC ZIEGEL



"The act of plunging suddenly into cold water is apt to produce a shock which is not good, so don't think simply because you have read about it somewhere that a cold plunge is essential, for it is not . . .

". . . What I do consider good for any young man is a cold sponge in the morning, but that is quite different from the plunge . . .

". . . If you are going to train you will have to stop smoking, for it is rank poison to the athlete. Inveterate smokers don't make champions . . .

"Above all, a boy entering the sport of boxing should always keep in mind that a good home and good home surroundings are priceless. These should not be cast aside for the life of a tough or that of a gangster or loafer. Clean, wholesome good living are just as essential towards success as is a powerfully built body . . .

". . . Theodore Roosevelt was a great believer in the sport. He often remarked that it developed an even, peaceable temperament . . .

". . . Be moderate in everything. Don't overwork, overeat or oversleep. Over-indulgence of any kind may offset all the good you have acquired . . .

". . . Don't masturbate."

Nat Fleischer, editor and publisher of *The Ring,* slipped all that into *How to Box,* copyright 1929. Of course, deep thinking has come a long way since 1929. Hollywood Squares, for example. Mr. Fleischer did have it right about smoking, and the cold plunge still doesn't sound like such a great idea, but the business about the sponge is very weird. Maybe the sponge was hot stuff 50 years ago, when they didn't know about pulsating showerheads or the really swell wash cloths that are around today.

Theodore Roosevelt? No argument there. Terrific person. Army guy. President. Ran up a hill, way before the jogging thing.

And moderation. Absolutely right. Moderation, in all things, moderation. Know who said that? Some moderator.

It's that last bit of advice — don't masturbate — that concerns us here. Actually, it's the whole question of s-e-x. Sex and fighting. Or, if you prefer, fighting and sex.

Oldtimers believed that sex was out of the question for a fighter in training. Just the way Rogers Hornsby stayed away from movie houses during the baseball season for fear of hurting his eyes. Weak eyes, Hornsby reasoned, made for weak batting averages.

Hornsby's lifetime batting mark was .358 which is a pretty strong argument for the movie house theory. Then again, maybe there wasn't anything playing that Hornsby wanted to see. No, that's hard to believe. Hornsby's career lasted years, there must have been one Chaplin movie . . .

On second thought, the movie house theory may not have been Hornsby's. Was it Ty Cobb who stayed away because he feared for his eyes? Cobb retired with a lifetime batting average of .367.

What's that? you say. You want to know what movie theaters have to do with the point of this story? With sex? Well, when I was an usher at the Luxor Theater in The Bronx there was a small room that was used to store the letters that went on the marquee. Since the room was usually empty, we would occasionally convince . . .

But that is *certainly* another story.

Trainer Freddy Brown is 72 years old. He remembers 1923 as the year he began with boxing. Freddy, who only works the best corners, doesn't question the things he first heard that year. He believes that sex before a fight is harmful to a boxer.

"Sex isn't good," is how Freddy put it.

Does he really think it's that important to avoid sex?

"Very important," Freddy said. "You got to have your full strength."

I made the usual arguments. That most fighters are young, well-conditioned athletes. Surely, sex a few days before a fight . . .

Freddy interrupted me. "Three, four weeks," he said. "A fighter shouldn't have any sex for three, four weeks before a fight."

Freddy thinks it has something to do with strength. "You got to have your full strength," he said. "Sex takes away your strength."

What about football players, basketball players, I countered. Those guys need all their strength just to carry their little black books.

Freddy was expecting me. "A football player," the trainer said, giving me a sad look, "a football player gets tired you take him out of the game. You give him a rest. A fighter you can't take out. He's got to be there."

Freddy provided an example. Tony Janiro, the fine middleweight of 30 years ago. "He coulda been a champion," Freddy said. "Sure. Sex. That was the main problem. That's what ruined him. For the first four, five rounds . . . no trouble. For the next four, five . . . no strength."

Freddy's estimate of three to four weeks struck other boxing people as hardly the best way to celibate. "Three to four days is more like it," said Gil Clancy. "That close to a fight it relieves the tension. But that's it."

Clancy, the Madison Square Garden matchmaker, is a quarter-century younger than Freddy Brown. When Clancy was managing fighters his orders were tougher. "For two weeks before a fight, no sex," that's what he says he told his young tigers.

Why did he hit on two weeks?

"I don't know for sure," Clancy admits. "I don't even know if it can hurt you the night before you fight. It's just better that you don't do it."

How can he be sure?

"I'm not," he said. "I told you I'm not sure. But it's like crossing the street. It's better to do it with your eyes open, right? Maybe you can do it with your eyes closed, but why would you try it?"

Mickey Duff, the British promoter, was listening to Clancy. "What if the fighter had a wet dream?" Clancy asked him. "How could you stop that?"

"It's only natural," Duff said. "What can you do?"

"You could tie a string around him," Clancy suggested.

The string theory isn't as knotty as it seems. Budd Schulberg, when he was researching *The Harder They Fall* — his novel about a heavyweight not unlike Primo Carnera — discovered that Carnera's trainer would make the fighter wear a rubber band around his penis to prevent wet dreams.

When Angelo Dundee heard that he shot back, "They coulda put eight rubber bands on Carnera and he never would've been no fighter."

The anecdote comes from George Plimpton's *Shadow Box*. Dundee was explaining to the writer "Maybe you can fool around just before a fight, but you can't have any misgivings about it. That's what's so great about Ali. He dosn't let anything bother him. A guy like (Willie) Pastrano'll shake his head in the ring and moan about what he's done the night before — kicking himself — but Ali doesn't do that. He has the greatest attitude of any fighter who ever lived."

"Lucky for you, Angelo," Plimpton said. "Otherwise, you'd have to bring out the rubber bands."

The talk about string reminded Duff of Jim Watt, the WBC lightweight champion. Watt was preparing for a fight, going through those last anxious weeks of training.

His manager, Terry Lawless, thought he had spotted a flaw in Watt's footwork. "Jim," he said, "I think your legs are too far apart." He suggested a string to be tied between Watt's legs. "The string would be just a bit longer than how far apart your legs should be. That way," the trainer said, "when you start feeling too much tension on the string you'll know your legs are too far apart. It'll do you a lot of good."

"Terry," said the quick-thinking Watt, "you know what would do me a lot more good? If I could use that string to tie my

---

Vic Ziegel, former sports columnist for the New York Post, *is co-author of "The Non-Runner's Book".*

wife's legs together."

Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear, July, 1918. Here's Jack Dempsey knocking out "The Minnesota Plasterer," Fred Fulton, in 18 seconds. Selling programs at that fight was the 16-year-old Bill Daly.

Doc Kearns, according to Daly, took a liking to the young program seller. "He reached for the water bottle and I handed it to him," Daly remembers. "Before long I worked my way up the steps. Kearns says to me, 'Come around tomorrow.' Then he says he has a fight in Chicago and he wants me there with the fighter. I told him, 'Geez, Doc, I'm only 16. My mother won't let me.' So Kearns talked to her. She said I was making 14 dollars a week selling programs and Kearns said he would give me the same. So that was that. She said 'OK', I went to Chicago and never looked back.

"Kearns would tell me, make sure you tell these fighters not to fool around for at least a week before a fight. But Kearns, he was the worst. The fighters would always catch Doc and so he'd have to give in. Naturally, he'd bawl me out. He would wanna know why they was fooling around. And I'd say — what the hell did I know, 16 years old — 'Well, it's your fault, Doc. You don't set an example.' "

The world according to Daly is a history lesson that would surprise most boxing fans.

"Everybody tells you Archie Moore and Ray Robinson were such great playboys," Daly says. "Nope, I don't believe it. I bet you the reason they lasted until they were 38 years old was because they didn't fool around.

"The one exception is Ali. He could screw around and still have enough to win. But the time Norton broke his jaw, Ali lost that one because the night before he was laying with two broads, one on each side. Joe Louis, too. That's why he lost to Schmeling. He had two broads before that fight." Daly snapped his fingers, stared at the ceiling. "I can't think of their names. Two new broads."

The first Louis-Schmeling fight is remembered as the one Louis lost because he dropped his left hand and took a terrific beating from Schmeling's right. And here was Daly trying to tell me something else. Did he really believe that "the new broads" were a factor in Louis' loss?

"Not a factor," Daly insisted. "The *main thing*. Louis was a playboy."

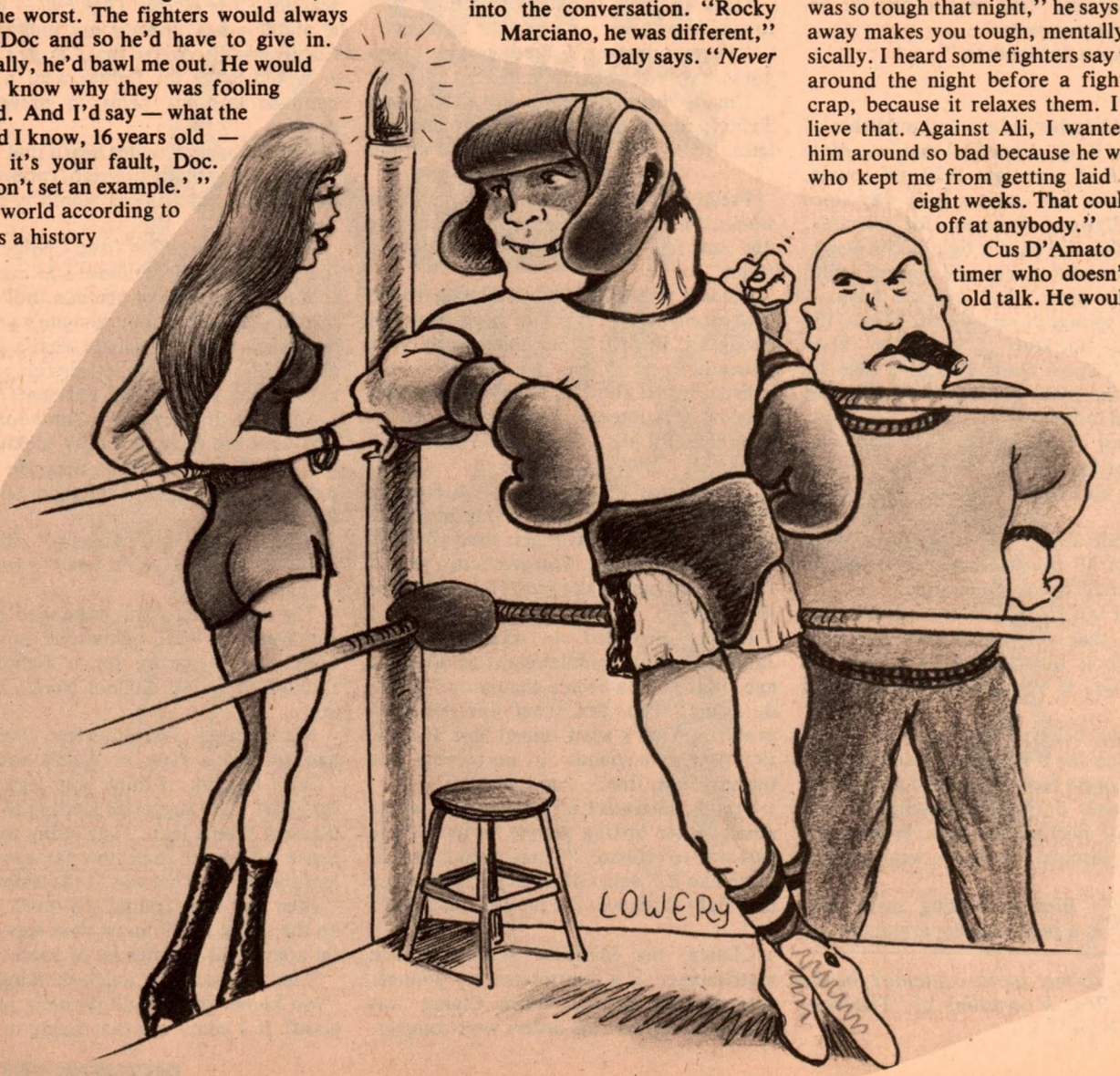
Another heavyweight champion drops into the conversation. "Rocky Marciano, he was different," Daly says. "*Never* fooled around. That's because his trainer was Charley Goldman, a great teacher. Charley was death on women. No women in the gym, no wives, no nothing! I believe that. I believed in it when I first heard it and I believe it today. They got what you call today the new breed of fighter. They're supposed to fool around and it ain't supposed to affect them. I can believe it. But I'll tell you why. It's because what you got around today, they're not the great fighters."

Chuck Wepner, who stayed in front of Ali for 15 rounds, is another believer. Chuck, by his own admission, is an even more accomodating target outside the ring.

"Not too many fighters partied more than I did," Wepner told me. "I've always had stuff available to me. Always. I probably do better than any fighter in the world. I don't know why, but I get 'em. Movie stars, celebrities, that kind of stuff."

That's Wepner, the lover, talking. Wepner the boxer is harder on himself. He says he went at least a week without sex before a fight. And for the title match with Ali, he was chaste for seven weeks. "That's why I was so tough that night," he says. "Staying away makes you tough, mentally and physically. I heard some fighters say they screw around the night before a fight, all that crap, because it relaxes them. I don't believe that. Against Ali, I wanted to bang him around so bad because he was the guy who kept me from getting laid for seven, eight weeks. That could piss you off at anybody."

Cus D'Amato is one old-timer who doesn't buy the old talk. He would, in fact,



tell Wepner that the only person who kept Wepner from scoring was Wepner himself. Cus, you see, has some original ideas.

"No one is original," Cus says. "No one really understands. They just pass on the things they've heard. They accept it. I was never one of those."

He talks about "beliefs instilled in the fighter's mind by ignorant trainers and managers." The hysteria about sex, Cus maintains, is one of the worst.

"I am not one who accepts the opinions of others without putting it to the test," Cus points out. He had the chance to put his sex theories to test when he trained a succession of deaf-mute fighters.

"Being deaf-mutes," Cus says, "they were completely oblivious to the cock-and-bull stories about sex they might have heard. I believe most fighters have sex, no matter what they say. So why tell them it's going to make them tired? Because all you're doing then is insuring that it's going to make them tired. It's like telling a little kid ice cream is bad for him. If you tell him that from the day he's born then he won't ever touch ice cream. It's the same with fighters. It's only because a fighter is taught that sex is bad for him that he believes it. He goes into the ring worrying he might get tired. "And that's what makes him tired."

Cus knows at least one fighter who found a better way. Leach Cross, a New York lightweight who boxed 60 years ago. Leach had told Cus about the time he was training at a farmhouse for a fight the following month. After a week of training the house burned down and Cross and his group moved to the local inn. Where, as luck would have it, Cross' wife had a room.

Cross' trainer, who knew all about the birds, the bees and his boxer, kept Cross in the room farthest from his wife. This worked fine for two or three nights. And then, with Cross going willy-wonka because he knew his wife was in the same building, the fighter decided to pay a three a.m. visit on the little woman. This went on almost every night until they broke camp.

Well, Cross won his bout decisively. And when he read the papers next day they credited him with one of the most brilliant exhibitions of boxing ever seen in a New York ring.

"After I read that," Cross told Cus, "I didn't have another fight where I didn't sleep with my wife."

"You may have questions about sexual matters such as nocturnal emissions (also called "wet dreams") and masturbation. Talk them over with your parents and/or spiritual advisor or doctor. Don't rely on the advice of friends who think they know all the answers."—Boy Scout Handbook. ■

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PIPINO CUEVAS— THE MAN AND THE MYTH

A FORMER CHAMP LOOKS AT BOTH

By JOSE TORRES

I have never seen Jose Pipino Cuevas Gonzalez in training. But this is my vision of the World Boxing Association welterweight king as he goes through the drudgery necessary to achieve victory: It's five in the morning and Santo Tomas de Hidalgo is being flooded by a torrential rain. Somewhere in the area is a smiling face. There is no other noise around but that of the rain hitting hard on the hot tin roofs of the places which house the poor. And the whistling of Pipino Cuevas.

Not even those living in poverty whose status demands that they work many hours for pennies are awake yet. This morning belongs to the fury of the heat and rain — and to Pipino Cuevas. I see him there, near his bed taking his time thinking of his future — whistling "Malaguena" with a smile and thinking of the struggles of his father, Geraldo, his mother, Julia and his 10 brothers and sisters.

Now I see him go out into the dark, hot morning. There is that smile again. It's there, fixed as if to remind him that a long future is ahead of him and that the smile is the evidence which proves that he enjoys his chores. I see him evaporating into the distance with water splashing to the sides with each of his firm steps. Only champions run that way.

Now, as I envision Pipino Cuevas chasing victories, the rain stops and a fiery sun comes out. And he's coming back from a 10-mile hike, his feet blistered and his face raw from the Mexican sun. And there is the smile. Shit! This young man has the attitude of an everlasting champion.

Reality offers nothing less. I spoke to both, Pipino Cuevas and his manager, Lupe Sanchez, and a talk with them made my vision almost a fact.

"Nobody in my family likes boxing," Pipino told me, not to my surprise. "In fact," he continued, "the only one who enjoys boxing, besides me, is my father." It was Don Geraldo who took his then 13-year-old son, Pipino, to a gym in Santo Tomas de Hidalgo; and five years later the proud butcher saw his son proclaimed welterweight champion of the world — the youngest ever, at 18, in the history of the division.

"That was the proudest moment of my life," said Pipino. "Winning the championship was something indescribable." Now, of course, Pipino has a lot to smile about. It's only when he gets into the ring that he regresses to childhood, to those days when all he saw was a father going to work, a father coming back from work; a mother cleaning house, a mother cooking, a mother washing clothes — a perpetual struggle. "Going into the ring is no joking matter," he said.

You watch him in actual competition and you can understand what he means. Once the bell rings we see the fading of his smile. And as long as punches have to be thrown and punches have to be taken, there is a tough, serious face with lines produced by controlled anger. We see a machine with brains whose creator forgot to install a reverse gear.

"I'm ready to fight anyone in the welterweight division. I'm ready at any moment," Pipino said candidly. And at 148 pounds, only one pound over the welterweight limit, Pipino seems to be ready. "The only thing," he said, "is that I don't know *if* the others want to fight me."

We learned that Promesa, a company which promotes boxing in Mexico, made several offers to World Boxing Council champ Wilfred Benitez, former champ Carlos Palomino, and top contenders Sugar Ray Leonard and Roberto Duran, to fight Pipino. And none of them seem anxious to respond.

Lupe Sanchez, 67, a manager who maintains a close distance to his pupil knows what he has. "We'll fight whomever gives the most money. And that includes what I consider the two toughest in the division after my fighter, Duran and Leonard," he said without hesitation. "I'm not saying that Pipino is going to have an easy fight. We have the confidence and we know the talent of my fighter, but we also know that once the first bell rings anything can happen in the ring."

For anyone who follows boxing closely the welterweight division must hit them with serious confusion. It is, without a doubt, the most competitive division in modern history. If a relative or a close friend weighs around 143 pounds and wants to be a fighter, tell him to shut up and come back when he's under 135, or over 147 pounds. If he insists, you take an iron chair and hit him over the head with it. You'll be doing him a favor! It is much safer to do that than to get into a ring with the likes of Duran, 68 wins, 1 loss, 53 by ko; Benitez, 37 wins, 0 losses, 1 draw, 24 ko's; Leonard, 25 wins, 0 losses, 16 by ko; Thomas Hearns, 22 wins, 0 losses, 21 by ko.

Opinions vary as to who is the best. But in an unscientific poll I took, seven out of ten chose Pipino Cuevas as the most consistent champion in the business today. He's looked upon with contempt by other welterweights in U.S. gyms. It's as if men with the qualities of Pipino should not be allowed to hit other men for a living.

With the collective belief that Pipino is a great champion, a look at his past record might serve a useful purpose now. He had a modest amateur career of only 19 fights, of which he lost 3, and won 16, "most of them by ko." And the four times he has lost in his 30 pro fights ("32," says Pipino) indicates that Pipino grew as a fighter and that winning the championship has created a monster.

"The toughest fight I had so far was against Cholo (Angel) Espada in our return bout. He was talking about Nov. 19, 1977, when the tough Mexican visited Espada's hometown, Puerto Rico, and deposed of the former champion in a grueling fight — which produced a broken jaw for the Puer-

to Rican and a KO in round 12. On their first encounter, the one in which Pipino dethroned Cholo, on July 17, 1976, the Mexican fighter had just been defeated by Andy Price (the same one who recently took a one-round beating by Leonard) and that suggested — to Cholo Espada at least — that he didn't have to kill himself running or training hard for the fight.

Consequently, the Puerto Rican champion was publicly embarrassed and pummeled into submission by the then unknown Pipino. It only took the new champion two rounds for that feat. Then a metamorphosis occurred: Pipino became the toughest animal in the business. An unbeatable one.

"Of course, I'm very happy with Pipino," said a proud Lupe Sanchez. "How many 'Pipinos' can you find in the streets in any part of the world?"

"Lupe Sanchez," said a happy Pipino, "is a great manager and a great friend. He has been with me almost since the beginning of my fighting career. He initiated me in the professional ranks."

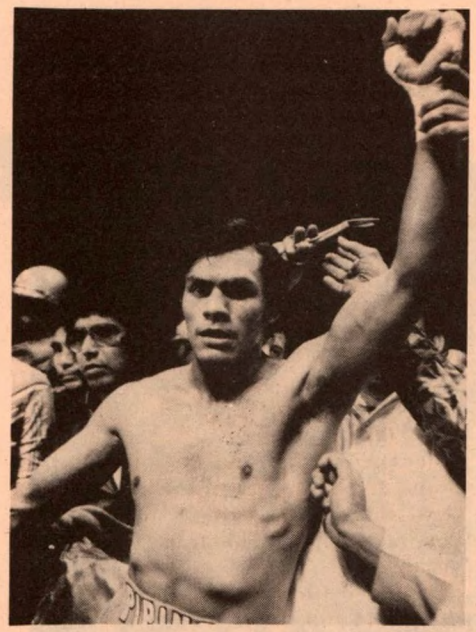
It was a time for the WBA champion to start his training. On November 24 he'll square off for the third time against former champ Cholo Espada, a compulsory fight imposed by the WBA. "I know," Pipino said to Espada, "that he was a great fighter. But I haven't seen him lately. He gave me a tough fight the last time we fought . . . I expect another hard fight this time also."

But experts dismiss the former champion as simply an interesting fight for the present champ. "One thing is for sure," assured Pipino's manager. "My fighter will be ready." And Pipino Cuevas doesn't have to be reminded of that. "I train like a champion because it's good to be champion." he said. "You'll never hear me or anyone else say that I look bad or that I lost a fight for lack of condition."

Pipino's money is being invested by his father. "In an intelligent and successful manner," said Lupe Sanchez. "He doesn't have to be worrying about his future." And what about his future?

"I don't know what I'm going to do when I retire from the ring," said Pipino, as if the championship demands an existential psyche with no space for life beyond the ring.

He didn't say it, but what he meant was that he would cross that bridge when the time comes. But when the time comes he'll cross the bridge in a king's chair — on the shoulders of his countrymen. It's trivial to think about the future for Pipino Cuevas. The future is now. It is for Pipino; for Mr. Geraldo Cuevas; for Julia Gonzalez; for his ten brothers and sisters; for the whole of the Mexican people.



My vision sees no silk pajamas in the mornings of Pipino Cuevas. It's still easy for him to get up before the sunrise in the mornings. And as long as this is so, no one should be worried about the champ. ■

Jose Torres is the co-author of ". . . Sting Like a Bee" and a columnist for the New York News World.

JOSE "PIPINO" CUEVAS' RING RECORD

1972

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 1	Jose Arias	Mexico City	KO 4
Mar. 4	Mario Roman	Mexico City	L 8
May 24	Rielero Rodriguez	Mexico City	KO 2
July 22	Pancho Benitez	Mexico City	KO 2
Aug. 19	Juan Pablo Oropeza	Mexico City	L 8
Dec. 6	Raul Martinez	Mexico City	KO 1

1973

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 28	Sergio Alejo	Mexico City	KO 4
Apro. 12	Memo Cruz	Mexico City	L 10
Aug. 4	Jose Figueroa	Mexico City	KO 3
Oct. 6	Octavio Amparan	Mexico City	KO 7
Nov. 24	Eleazar Delgado	Mexico City	L 10

1974

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
May 12	Salvador Ruvalacaba	Mexico City	KO 1
June 12	Sugar Sanders	Mexico City	KO 1
Aug. 20	Jose Luis Pena	Mexico City	KO 1
Oct. 26	Sammy Garcia	Mexico City	KO 3

1975

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 25	Ruben Vasquez	Mexico City	W 10
July 12	Carlos Obregon	Mexico City	W 10
Sept. 27	Jose Palacios (Won Mexican Welterweight Title)	Mexico City	KO 10

1976

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Apr. 3	Rafael Piamonte (Relinquished Mexican Welterweight Title)	Mexicali	KO 1
June 10	Andy Price	Los Angeles	L 10
July 17	Angel Espada (Won WBA Welterweight Title)	Mexicali	KO 2
Oct. 27	Shoji Tsujimoto (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Kanazawa	KO 6

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 12	Miguel Campanino (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Mexico City	KO 2
Aug. 6	Clyde Gray (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 2
Nov. 19	Angel Espada (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	San Juan	KO 12

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 4	Harold Weston Jr. (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 9
May 20	Billy Backus (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 1
Sept. 9	Pete Ranzany (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Sacramento	KO 2

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 29	Scott Clark (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Los Angeles	KO 2
July 30	Randy Shields (Retained WBA Welterweight Title)	Chicago	W 15

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
30	25	5	0	22

from *The Ring Record Book*

Cuevas lands a right to the nose of Pete Ran- Cuevas won in round two.

HOW THEY SET THE ODDS IN VEGAS

BETTING ON BOXING MATCHES MAY BE ONE OF SPORTS' BEST-KEPT SECRETS

By JIM HUNTER

Thirty years ago in Newark a man slept in front of "Joe The Polack's" door, waiting to be the first to bet on a fight.

In September in Las Vegas two world championship bouts were held, but no one was standing in line to lay a bet. Few people, for that matter, even bothered to wager.

"It's not like in the past, not like the years after the war," says Bob Martin, the man who camped on that Newark doorstep in order to be the first to bet in the morning, before the line changed. "Now there's not that much interest in betting fights."

Martin should know. A Las Vegas resident for 16 years, he's generally acknowledged as America's leading football handicapper. He also posts lines on baseball and, occasionally, boxing for the Union Plaza Hotel.

Even in Las Vegas, where one could bet on what state Skylab would fall, boxing doesn't attract much action.

Several reasons have been suggested for this lack of interest: the fact that Las Vegas sports books don't take bets on most fights and the fact that the general betting public has a difficult time getting accurate information on fighters are two of the most prevalent.

But Lem Banker, one of the most successful sports bettors in Las Vegas, has a different theory.

"People don't trust boxing, they're suspicious," says Lem Banker. "I don't mean the fights are fixed, it's just that too many people, myself included, have been burned by bad decisions. They're leery of betting on a fight so they lay off."

Of course, that doesn't mean there's no betting. Many Las Vegas books posted odds on the Larry Holmes-Earnie Shavers World Boxing Council heavyweight championship. But the money wasn't there.

"There was more action than I expected," says Martin, "but that's because there were a lot of people in from out of town."

More action than what? Than on a soap box derby race? Banker puts it in perspective.

"I'd say that only one-tenth of one percent of the people who bet on football that weekend bet on the Holmes-Shavers fight. That's a thousand to one.

"There's much more private betting in boxing among individuals than across the board. That's opposed to football where there's more money bet across the board than among individuals."

Good examples of that can be found at

Jim Hunter is the UPI and Reuters Correspondent in Las Vegas.

Jackie Gaughn, head of Vegas' El Cortez Sports Book, enters the latest odds on the Holmes-Shavers bout for the "chalk players."

the Silver Slipper Casino and the Sahara Hotel. The Slipper offers weekly club fights while the Sahara goes once a month. In both places the ringside seats directly behind the press section are filled with local gamblers and some from Los Angeles. The constant uproar from that location would make a newcomer think he's at a cockfight.

"Two-to-one, I'm giving two-to-one, who wants a little two-to-one on the red trunks?" screams one fat man.

"Forget that," yells a short man. "I'm giving three-to-one, three-to-one, who wants some three-to-one?"

And so it goes, the odds changing with every round, every solid punch. More so, perhaps, than in any other sport, there is no sound quite like the angry shrieks and wails of the anguished bettor after the six-to-one underdog gets robbed in a closed decision.

The amount of money which changes hands at the Slipper and Sahara is not that much; not as much as one crap table in the casino will take in that night. But there are exceptions. One gambler estimates that when local fighter, Steve Delgado fought veteran Jacinto Fernandez, as much as $30,000 was exchanged at the Slipper. There were no howls that night; Delgado the dog, took the decision. The same gambler figures almost $400,000 was wagered on a fight at the Sahara when Las Vegan Rocky Mosley, Jr. and Edgar "Bad News" Wallace of Phoenix fought. A large and well-heeled group of fight fans from Phoenix came up for the bout. Wallace lost a decision and Phoenix's economy was a little poorer for it.

One bettor more than a little miffed that sports books don't post odds on all major fights, plus some Slipper and Sahara main events, says "The books don't have the guts to post odds." "And that's obviously because the oddsmakers feel the serious bettors know more about boxing."

So why don't the oddsmakers retain a serious bettor as a consultant? "Because they don't trust us to put up a correct number."

One number which will be posted, however, is that on the Sugar Ray Leonard-Wilfred Benitez fight for the WBC welterweight title December 1 at Caesar's.

"Before his last three fights, the bout would have opened up at 6-5 with Leonard the favorite," says Martin. "But now that he's looked so good in those fights and the public has adopted him, it'll open and close much higher. I look for it to close with Leonard a 4-1 favorite.

"There won't be that much volume on that fight so the public doesn't enter into it that much. But we push the line up to ward off the professional. It's the knowledgeable person who can hurt you. Raising the line is a sort of checks and balances. It's our safeguard."

But there is one potential bout in which the public's money will be enough to affect the line — Leonard vs. Roberto Duran.

"That's because both fighters have captured the public's attention," says Martin. "In most fights, performance is what determines a line. In this case, popularity will enter in."

Adds Banker, "The amount of money bet determines who is the favorite. It's like at the racetrack. The horse with the most money bet on him is the favorite, but that doesn't necessarily mean he's the best horse in the race. It's the same with boxing."

A 4-1 line favoring Leonard doesn't mean he's four times the better fighter than Benitez. It simply means that Leonard is by far the more popular figure and that non-serious money by the general public will be placed on him. However, enough small wagers add up and can be damaging, so to dissuade the casual bettor that person is forced to lay down $4 in hopes of winning $1.

But before a line can be moved, a favorite must be determined. Martin arrived at Leonard through this process. "I asked myself, simply, who do I think will win? Then I asked, what does Benitez have that can beat Leonard? He's not as quick as Leonard, he's not as good a boxer and he can't stop anyone with his punch. He does have experience and is a good defensive boxer, but being defensive won't beat Leonard. It just means Benitez might go the distance and lose the decision."

The Leonard-Benitez fight will be on the boards. So will the Leonard-Duran bout if and when it takes place. So, too, will evenly-matched heavyweight title fights. Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier III was up; Ali-Richard Dunn wasn't.

"I never knew 'Joe The Polack's' last name," says Martin. "But it didn't matter. I knew I could find him below the Bradford Bowling Alley and I knew I could bet on any fight in the country.

"Today in Las Vegas, boxing is the low rung on the totem pole." "Joe The Polack" would be sad. ■

THE ODDS IN FAMOUS FIGHTS

CONTESTANTS	FAVORITE	ODDS
John L. Sullivan vs. James J. Corbett	Sullivan	4 to 1
James J. Corbett vs. Robert Fitzsimmons	Corbett	5 to 3
Robert Fitzsimmons vs. James J. Jeffries	Fitzsimmons	2 to 1
Tommy Burns vs. Jack Johnson	Burns	3 to 2
Jack Johnson vs. James J. Jeffries	Jeffries	10 to 7
Jess Willard vs. Jack Johnson	Johnson	8 to 5
Jack Dempsey vs. Jess Willard	Willard	6 to 5
Gene Tunney vs. Jack Dempsey (first bout)	Dempsey	11 to 5
Gene Tunney vs. Jack Dempsey (second bout)	Tunney	even money
Jack Dempsey vs. Georges Carpentier	Dempsey	3 to 1
Jack Dempsey vs. Luis Firpo	Dempsey	3 to 1
Jack Sharkey vs. Max Schmeling (first bout)	Sharkey	9 to 5
Jack Sharkey vs. Max Schmeling (second bout)	Schmeling	6 to 5
Jack Sharkey vs. Primo Carnera	Sharkey	5 to 4
Primo Carnera vs. Max Baer	Baer	7 to 5
Max Baer vs. James J. Braddock	Baer	10 to 1
James J. Braddock vs. Joe Louis	Louis	5 to 2
Joe Louis vs. Max Schmeling (second bout)	Louis	9 to 5
Joe Louis vs. Billy Conn (first bout)	Louis	18 to 5
Joe Louis vs. Billy Conn (second bout)	Louis	14 to 5
Joe Louis vs. Joe Walcott (first bout)	Louis	10 to 1
Joe Louis vs. Joe Walcott (second bout)	Louis	13 to 5
Ezzard Charles vs. Joe Walcott (first bout)	Charles	3 to 2
Ezzard Charles vs. Joe Louis	Louis	2 to 1
Ezzard Charles vs. Joe Walcott (second bout)	Charles	5 to 1
Joe Walcott vs. Ezzard Charles (third bout)	Charles	6 to 1
Joe Walcott vs. Ezzard Charles (fourth bout)	Charles	2 to 1
Joe Walcott vs. Rocky Marciano	Marciano	9 to 5
Rocky Marciano vs. Joe Walcott (second bout)	Marciano	3½ to 1
Floyd Patterson vs. Archie Moore	Moore	6 to 5
Floyd Patterson vs. Ingemar Johansson	Patterson	4 to 1
Ingemar Johansson vs. Floyd Patterson	Johansson	8 to 5
Floyd Patterson vs. Ingemar Johansson	Patterson	17 to 5
Floyd Patterson vs. Sonny Liston (first bout)	Liston	10 to 7
Sonny Liston vs. Floyd Patterson (second bout)	Liston	5 to 1
Sonny Liston vs. Cassius Clay (first bout)	Liston	7 to 1
Muhammad Ali vs. Sonny Liston (second bout)	Liston	7 to 5
Muhammad Ali vs. Floyd Patterson	Ali	17 to 5
Joe Frazier vs. Jimmy Ellis	Frazier	3 to 1
Joe Frazier vs. Muhammad Ali	Frazier	6 to 5
Joe Frazier vs. George Foreman	Frazier	3 to 1
George Foreman vs. Muhammad Ali	Foreman	3 to 1
Muhammad Ali vs. Leon Spinks (first bout)	Ali	5 to 1
Leon Spinks vs. Muhammad Ali (second bout)	Ali	3 to 1
Ken Norton vs. Larry Holmes	Norton	6 to 5
Larry Holmes vs. Alfredo Evangelista	Holmes	# out fight
Larry Holmes vs. Osvaldo Ocasio	Holmes	# out fight
Larry Holmes vs. Mike Weaver	Holmes	# out fight
Larry Holmes vs. Earnie Shavers	Holmes	3 to 1

* Patterson was conceded to be such an overwhelming favorite that for the first time in a world heavyweight title fight there were no "official" odds quoted on the fight.

Larry Holmes was deemed to be so superior that no odds were quoted on those fights.

NEW FACES

There were 10,731 fans in New Jersey's Giants' Stadium to see **Rocky Lockridge**'s performance. And when it was over, all 10,731 fans stood, united in applause and appreciative of the masterful display of boxing they had just witnessed.

For 12 rounds in his fight for the New Jersey State featherweight championship, Lockridge slammed punches against titleholder Gerald Hayes. He threw them from underneath, from over the top, from in close and from long range. He threw them with power and he threw them with speed. All Hayes could do was move and block, cover and block, cover and catch. Whenever he flurried against the ever-pressing Lockridge, Rocky would fire at least as many punches in return; and then add two or three for good measure.

Never did Lockridge stop. Never did he let up, despite the fact that not one of his previous seven professional fights had gone beyond the sixth round. Veteran reporters who had seen Henry Armstrong said that not even "Hammerin' Henry" was as brutal and relentless as Lockridge at this stage of their respective careers.

As impressive as Lockridge's performance was, it becomes even more impressive when one is told that the former amateur star was holding back through much of the 12 rounds against the talented and durable Hayes.

"I knew I was in there with a seasoned pro," said Rocky, "and wanted to pace myself. Remember, I had never gone past six rounds, and here I was going 12 against a class opponent. I had to make sure I had enough gas to burn."

As it turned out, Lockridge had more than enough energy for a strong finish. In fact, at the final bell, Lockridge looked fresh enough to box another 12 rounds!

Perhaps Lockridge gets his inexhaustible supply of energy from training in Joe Frazier's South Philadelphia gym, where the aroma of greatness still hangs in the air. Perhaps it comes from being trained by former middleweight contender George Benton, who, by his own admission, is a much better trainer than he was a fighter. Or perhaps it comes from being raised in poverty in Tacoma, Washington, always wanting, but never getting.

It was the poverty and hunger of his family that made Lockridge give up his dream of winning a gold medal in the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. Instead of taking off the necessary weeks to train and compete, Rocky stayed at home, earning money by performing in nightclubs with his own band.

"I play the drums and sing," said Lockridge. Those who have heard him, say he is quite a talented musician and performer.

"I love music, boxing and sportscasting," stated Lockridge, who is working towards a degree in communication at William Paterson College in Wayne, New Jersey.

"One day I hope to be behind the 'mike,' calling all the action of a big fight."

As he works toward that day, Lockridge lives the Spartan life of a fighter, following the advice and guidance of Benton and manager Lou Duva.

"Today, New Jersey. Tomorrow, the world!" declared Duva. "Lockridge keeps getting better with every fight. I see no way he won't become champ of either the junior featherweight or featherweight divisions. He's just sensational!"

If you think Duva is just another manager saying great things about his fighter, or think Benton is going a bit overboard when he says, "The kid is for real!," see for yourself. ■

ROCKY LOCKRIDGE

Height: 5'5" **Weight:** 124 lbs. **Born:** January 30, 1959 **Amateur Record:** 210-8

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Aug. 9	Tony Reed	Seattle	KO 2
Oct. 5	Jose Luis Lara	Seattle	W 6
Nov. 14	Tony Hernandez	Totowa	KO 1

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 13	Mel Bethea	Totowa	KO 1
Apr. 17	Mel Boynton	Totowa	KO 2
Apr. 27	Mike Maldonado	Newark	KO 2
May 31	Ron Green	Philadelphia	KO 1
Sept. 18	Gerald Hayes	East Rutherford	W 12
	(Won New Jersey State Featherweight Title)		

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
8	8	0	0	6

When the bell rings, **Ron Huston** moves out of his corner with ferocity, fists pumping, ready to fight. He leaves defensive wizardry and self-preservation to his opponents. Huston's boxing philosophy knows only one gear: Forward. It is a philosophy the native of New Bedford, Mass., hopes will carry him to the world light heavyweight title by the end of 1981.

Huston, who bears a slight resemblance to country-western singer Mac Davis, first began dreaming of becoming a boxing champion on March 8, 1971. That was the night he watched his idol, "Smokin' " Joe Frazier, win the undisputed heavyweight championship with a 15-round unanimous decision against Muhammad Ali. Huston was 14 at the time, but that night he knew his future was in the ring.

Within a year, Huston had already won a championship in Massachusetts. His total dedication rapidly made him a polished fighter. Advice from older brother Jerry, who fought professionally under the name of Jerry Houston from 1971-1975, also helped in Ron's development as a fighter.

Huston won the New York Golden Gloves championship in 1978 and 1979, setting a tournament record of nine consecutive knockouts over the two-year span. He also captured a championship in the light heavyweight division of the 1979 Spanish Gloves competition in New York City.

Huston's swarming, non-stop attack was perfect for the amateurs, where aggressiveness and punches thrown count heavily. Rollie Hackmer, who manages and trains Huston, believes that same style, when combined with experience, will lead to a world title.

"He certainly has the desire and ability to go all the way," says Hackmer, who guided Doug Jones into contention in the light heavyweight and heavyweight divisions.

"He can counter as well as Jones did, and he has the relentlessness of Joe Frazier. He also listens, which is a great attribute, especially today, when many fighters think they know more than their managers and trainers. With his attitude for hard work and the sincere desire to learn, I don't think he can miss."

Now a resident of Weehawken, New Jersey, Huston's other athletic interests include swimming and water skiing. However, it is his boxing career that is foremost in Huston's mind.

"I know every young professional wants to be a world champion," Huston says. "But I just know I can make it. I just have to be patient and put in a lot of hard work. I just know it will all pay off in the long run.

"If it's not worth working hard for, it's not worth having." ■

PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN

RON HUSTON

Height: 6'¼" **Weight:** 175 lbs. **Born:** October 9, 1956 **Amateur Record:** 25-5, 24

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
May 21	John Powell	New York	KO 4
July 31	Harry Fryar	Totowa	KO 4
Oct. 4	Curtis Goines	New York	KO 4

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
3	3	0	0	3

"Un Flaco de Explosivo" ("the Explosive Thin Man") stepped from the ring after a three-round workout and nodded his head in appreciation of the sparring session **Juan LaPorte** had just put him through. The nod was also to show his respect for the young fighter. Alexis Arguello was impressed.

That was one year ago, when LaPorte was a "veteran" of six professional bouts. Today, he is among the top featherweights in the United States.

"As good as he is, he's still far from his peak," said Gil Clancy, who managed LaPorte before becoming matchmaker at Madison Square Garden.

"He has a right that can put you to sleep, and his left is rapidly improving, too. He also throws combinations better than most seasoned pros."

For that, credit must be given to trainer Carlos Espada, who boxed professionally — with some success — from the early 1960's until the mid-1970's, in every division from lightweight to light heavyweight.

"I'm a much better trainer than I was a fighter," Espada jokingly admits. His efforts show in the rapid improvement of LaPorte.

"Juan is going to be everything I hoped to be. He has it all, and he knows how to listen. You tell him something and he does it."

The praise does not stop there.

"LaPorte is a beautiful kid," said Howie Albert, who, along with Paul Guez, the President and owner of Sasson Jeans, guides the career of the rising young prospect.

"My job as manager is quite easy," said Albert. "Juan is not like some fighters who moan and grumble about coming to the gym, even when they know they have a fight coming up. LaPorte trains as hard as anybody, and actually has fun while he's training."

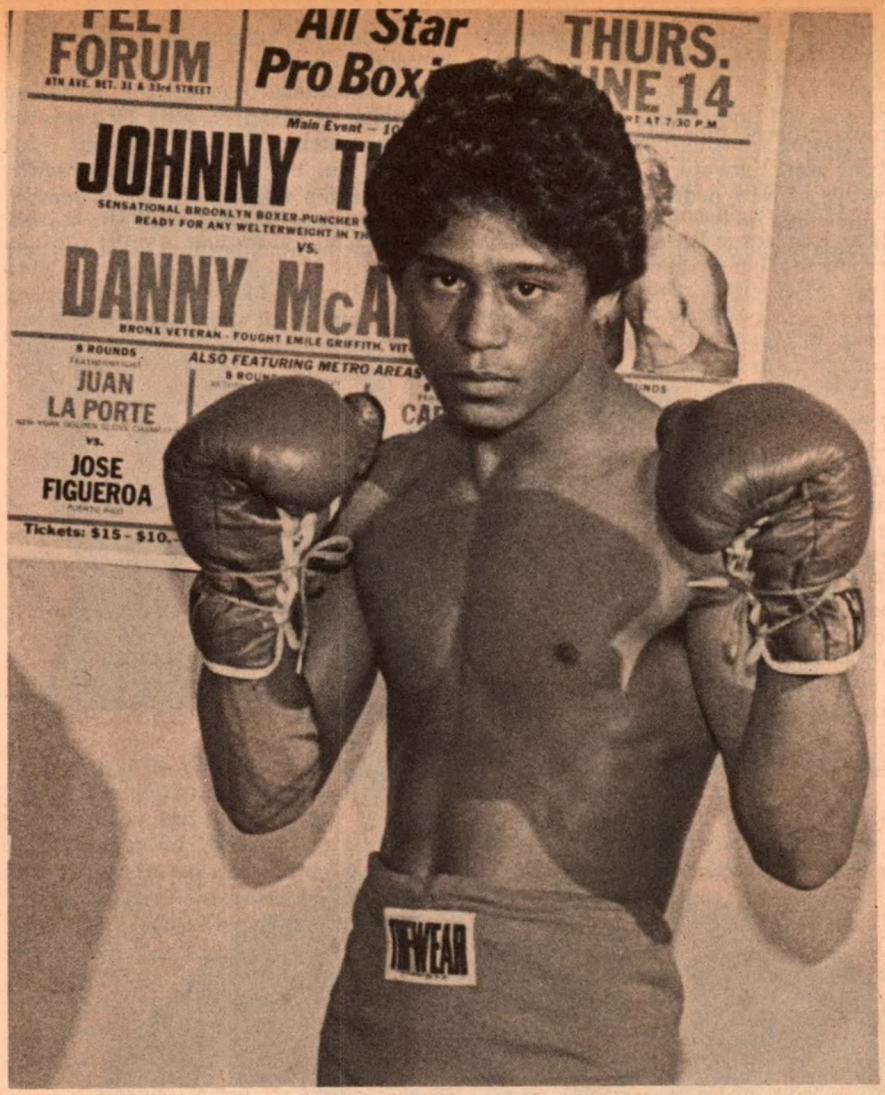
Born in Guyama, Puerto Rico, LaPorte came to the United States with his mother, five sisters and one brother in 1968. A boxing fan for "as long as I can remember," his two favorite fighters are Joe Louis and Roberto Duran.

"Both of them spell action," said LaPorte. "There was never a dull moment when Louis stepped through the ropes, or when Duran fights. He's great!"

LaPorte began searching for his own boxing greatness when he was 15. Just two years later, he won the New York Golden Gloves 112-pound sub-novice championship. In 1977, he lost a close decision in the finals of the Gloves to currently unbeaten professional Jose Nieto. In an earlier fight, he had decisioned Nieto.

LaPorte's only loss as a pro came on May 27, 1978. It was a six-round split-decision loss to Jose Rodriguez in Los Angeles.

"We'd like to get him back," said Albert, "but we've already tried. He wants no part of LaPorte any more!"



One of LaPorte's finest victories was an eight-round decision against former New York Golden Gloves titlist David Capo in December 1978. Capo is the only man to have defeated 1976 Olympic champion Leo Randolph.

LaPorte, who is employed by the Sasson Jeans Company, looks more like a model than a fighter when he steps in the ring in brightly colored and stylish trunks and robe designed by Guez.

"It is my wish," said the president of Sasson, an avid boxing fan, "to one day make a robe for Juan, the likes of which has never been seen before."

Guez then smiled and said, "And written on the back will be 'Juan LaPorte — World Featherweight Champion.' " ■

JUAN LAPORTE

Height: 5'3" **Weight:** 126 lbs. **Born:** November 24, 1959
Amateur Record: 29-6, 9 knockouts

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Oct. 29	John Green	Hamilton	KO 1
Nov. 11	Jerry Strickland	Cincinnati	W 4
Dec. 15	Charlie Buggs	Hamilton	KO 3

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Mar. 2	Santos Cruz	New York	W 4
May 27	Jose Rodriguez	Los Angeles	L 6
July 26	Ray Viruet	New York	W 6
Dec. 15	David Capo	New York	W 8

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Apr. 27	Lazaro Fabian	New York	KO 1
June 14	Jose Figueroa	New York	KO 5
Aug. 16	Wardell Williams	Kansas City	KO 2
Aug. 22	Andres Torres	New York	KO 6
Sept. 19	Joe Rivera	New York	W 8

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
12	11	1	0	6

Louis "The Syrian" Hubela dreams a lot. It gives him something to do while he waits for the next call to action.

Brooklyn-born Hubela has two dreams in particular. One of them he calls his "long-range dream." It is the one where he wins the lightweight championship of the world and returns to Brooklyn to a parade even the Brooklyn Dodgers never saw the likes of.

The other dream is Hubela's "immediate goal." It is of a fight he would sign for right now if the opportunity presented itself.

"I want to fight Howard Davis Jr.," stated Hubela. "I think I can beat him. No. Change that. I *know* I can beat him."

That statement is sure to leave readers quite stunned, for Hubela is not yet an eight-round fighter, while Davis is a top contender who will soon fight for a version of the lightweight title.

Hubela makes it clear that he wants to fight Davis not because he thinks so little of him, but because he thinks so much of him.

"Howard Davis is a real good fighter, but I believe I have the tools to beat him. Styles make fights. I think his always-moving style is suited to my style. The way to beat him is to pressure him and cut the ring off. You gotta make him stand and fight."

Those tasks are easier said than done.

"I realize that," said Hubela, "but I just know I can cut the ring off on him. I've watched him for years and I know what to expect from him. Besides, he doesn't hit that hard, so I know that in order for him to beat me, he's got to knock me out. That's something I know he can't do. Also, I'd fight him like it was the last fight of my life. I've got more to gain by winning than he does. Financially, it would be the break I've been waiting for."

Louie, who looks like actor Dustin Hoffman with a moustache, is presently his own manager. The training end of his career is in the capable hands of veteran Tony Canzi, whom Hubela calls, "the greatest trainer I know of."

Hubela turned professional in November, 1977, after an amateur career which took him to the quarter-finals of the talent-laden New York Golden Gloves three times.

"I'm dedicating my entire career to my father, who passed away a few years ago. We were very close and I think of him often. I want the Hubela family name to be immortalized. When I win the title it will be."

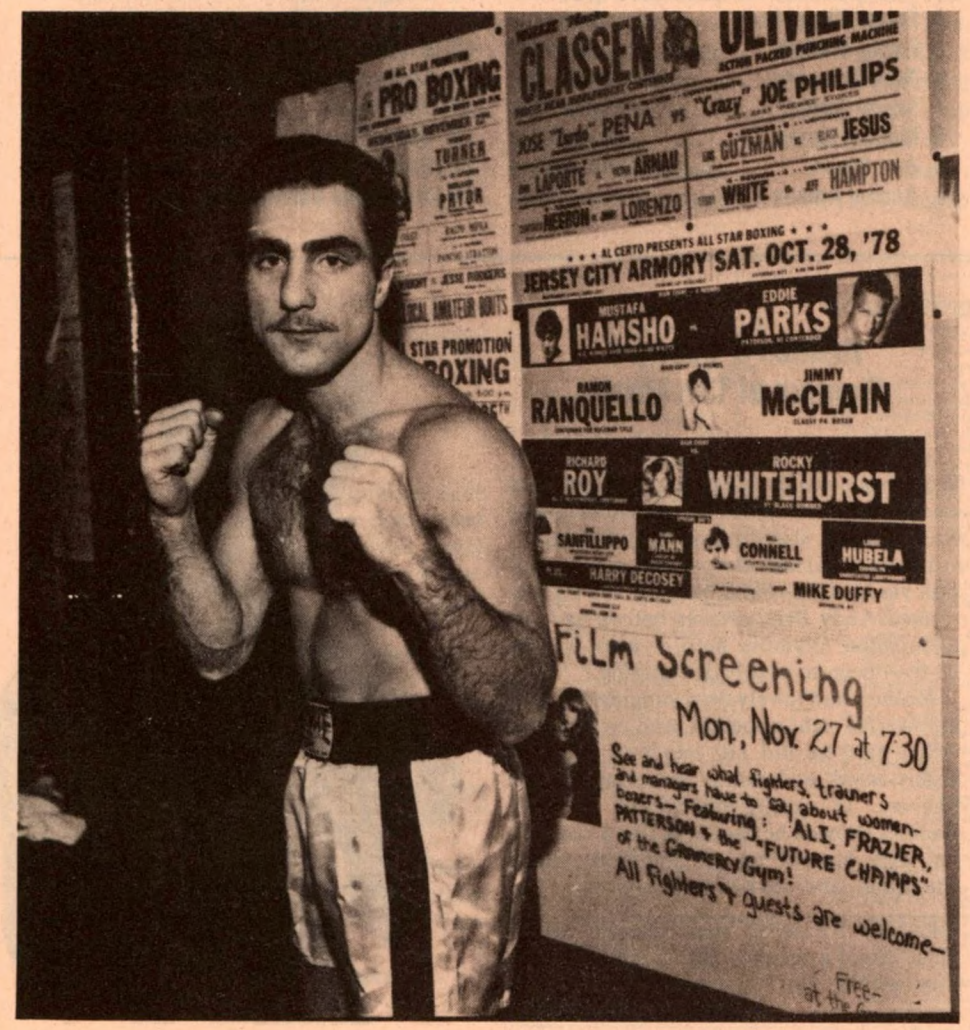
After 15 fights, Hubela has learned an important lesson in the art of pugilism.

"It has taken me this long, but now I know you fight with your head even more than your body. There's a lot more to boxing than just punching it out."

The talk of boxing as a science brought Hubela back to thoughts of a fight against Davis.

"I'd outsmart him, then outbox him, then outslug him. I've been working on increasing my power and on leverage, and know that if I drop him, I'll keep him there. Sometimes a man just knows he can do something. I *know* I can beat Davis!"

Then he added, "I sure hope Davis reads this, and takes me up on my challenge." ■



LOUIE HUBELA

Height: 5'6" **Weight:** 135 lbs. **Born:** August 20, 1954

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Nov. 18	Jose Ortiz	New York	W 4
Dec. 21	Mike Leonard	Brooklyn	KO 1

1978

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 25	Rich Garland	Brooklyn	W 4
Feb. 22	Dan Daniels	Brooklyn	W 6
Apr. 19	David Vega	Brooklyn	W 4
Apr. 27	Iggy Villanueva	New York	W 4
May 26	Ed Leahy	Brooklyn	KO 5
July 26	Clyde Beattie	New York	W 4
Aug. 25	Jimmy McNeece	New York	W 6
Oct. 28	Dan Daniels	New Jersey	W 6

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 26	David Vega	New York	W 4
Feb. 22	Ralph Dumont	Cohoes	KO 3
May 11	Benito Jimenez	New York	W 6
May 24	Benny Fuentes	Cohoes	W 6
June 28	Ronnie Newby	Staten Island	KO 1

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
15	15	0	0	4

Attention: Matchmakers, promoters, managers and trainers. If you have a talented young prospect in your stable who you believe should be profiled in Ring's new monthly feature, "New Faces," please enclose a glossy black and white photo of him, along with a short biographical sketch that includes his height, weight, birthday, birthplace, amateur record and titles (if any) and professional record. All professional records *must* be notarized and will be thoroughly checked by our staff.

The RING WORLD RATINGS

(AS OF OCTOBER 6, 1979)

*WBA champion **WBC champion

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(over 175 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1 Larry Holmes** . . . . . Easton, Pa.
2 Gerrie Coetzee . . . . . South Africa
3 John Tate . . . . . Knoxville, Tenn.
4 Earnie Shavers . . . . . Warren, Ohio
5 Mike Weaver . . . . . Los Angeles
6 Leroy Jones . . . . . Denver, Colo.
7 Lorenzo Zanon . . . . . Italy
8 Alfredo Evangelista . . . . . Spain
9 Scott LeDoux . . . . . Minneapolis, Minn.
10 Leon Spinks . . . . . St. Louis, Mo.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(not over 175 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
VICTOR GALINDEZ* . . . . . Argentina
1 Matthew Saad Muhammad** (Matthew Franklin) . . . Philadelphia, Pa.
2 Marvin Johnson . . . . . Indianapolis, Ind.
3 Alvaro (Yaqui) Lopez . . . . Stockton, Cal.
4 John Conteh . . . . . England
5 James Scott . . . . . Rahway, N.J.
6 Eddie Gregory . . . . . Brooklyn, N.Y.
7 Lotte Mwale . . . . . Zambia
8 Mustapha Wassaja . . . . . Denmark
9 Mike Rossman . . . . . Turnersville, N.J.
10 Rudi Koopmans . . . . . Holland

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(not over 160 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
VITO ANTUOFERMO . . . . . Italy
1 Marvin Hagler . . . . . Brockton, Mass.
2 Hugo Corro . . . . . Argentina
3 Alan Minter . . . . . England
4 Ronnie Harris . . . . . Akron, Ohio
5 Mike Colbert . . . . . Portland, Ore.
6 Tony Sibson . . . . . England
7 Mustafa Hamsho . . . . . Syria
8 Marcos Geraldo . . . . . Mexico
9 Georg Steinherr . . . . . Germany
10 David Love . . . . . San Diego, Cal.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(not over 154 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
MASASHI KUDO* . . . . . Japan
1 Ayub Kalule . . . . . Uganda
2 Maurice Hope** . . . . . England
3 Rocky Mosley, Jr. . . . . Las Vegas, Nev.
4 Frank Wissenbach . . . . . Germany
5 Rocky Mattioli . . . . . Australia
6 Tony Chiaverini . . . . . Kansas City, Mo.
7 Sandy Torres . . . . . Puerto Rico
8 Marijan Benes . . . . . Yugoslavia
9 Gert Steyn . . . . . South Africa
10 Andoni Amana . . . . . Spain

WELTERWEIGHTS
(not over 147 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
WILFRED BENITEZ** . . . . . Puerto Rico
1 Ray Leonard . . . . . Palmer Park, Md.
2 Jose (Pipino) Cuevas* . . . . . Mexico
3 Roberto Duran . . . . . Panama
4 Thomas Hearns . . . . . Detroit, Mich.
5 Jorgen Hansen . . . . . Denmark
6 Pete Ranzany . . . . . Sacramento, Cal.
7 Angel Espada . . . . . Puerto Rico
8 David Green . . . . . England
9 Manuel Jiminez . . . . . Puerto Rico
10 Andy Price . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
(not over 140 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
ANTONIO CERVANTES* . . . . . Colombia
1 Joe Kimpuani . . . . . Zaire
2 Sang-Hyung Kim** . . . . . South Korea
3 Saoul Mamby . . . . . New York, N.Y.
4 Miguel Montilla . . . . . Dominican Rep.
5 Esteban DeJesus . . . . . Puerto Rico
6 Lennox Blackmoore . . . . . Guyana
7 Teo Ozuna . . . . . Dominican Republic
8 Sean O'Grady . . . . . Oklahoma City, Ok.
9 Bruce Curry . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
10 Juan Jose Gimenez . . . . . Spain

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(not over 135 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1 Ernesto Espana* . . . . . Venezuela
2 Jim Watt** . . . . . Scotland
3 Claude Noel . . . . . Trinidad, W.I.
4 Julio Valdez . . . . . Dominican Rep.
5 Johnny Lira . . . . . Chicago, Ill.
6 Howard Davis . . . . . Glen Cove, N.Y.
7 Jorge Morales . . . . . Puerto Rico
8 Vilomar Fernandez . . . . Dominican Rep.
9 Aaron Pryor . . . . . Cincinnati, Ohio
10 Hilmer Kenty . . . . . Detroit, Mich.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
(not over 130 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
SAMUEL SERRANO* . . . . . Puerto Rico
1 Alexis Arguello** . . . . . Nicaragua
2 Frankie Baltazar . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
3 Bobby Chacon . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.
4 Rafael (Bazooka) Limon . . . . . Mexico
5 Rodolfo Sanchez . . . . . Spain
6 Victor Echegaray . . . . . Argentina
7 Greg Coverson . . . . . Columbus, Ohio
8 Roberto Elizondo . . . Corpus Christi, Tex.
9 Arturo Leon . . . . . Tucson, Ariz.
10 Carlos Hernandez . . . . . Spain

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(not over 126 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
DANNY LOPEZ** . . . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
1 Eusebio Pedroza* . . . . . Panama
2 Reuben Castillo . . . . . Bakersfield, Calif.
3 Roberto Castanon . . . . . Spain
4 Cecilio Lastra . . . . . Spain
5 Mike Ayala . . . . . San Antonio, Texas
6 Juan Malvarez . . . . . Argentina
7 Eddie Ndukwu . . . . . Nigeria
8 Hector Carrasquilla . . . . . Panama
9 Salvador Sanchez . . . . . Mexico
10 Nene Jun . . . . . Philippines

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
(not over 122 pounds)

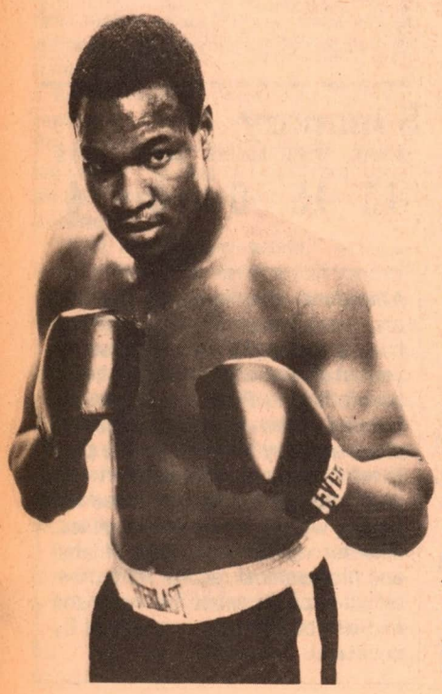
WORLD CHAMPION
WILFREDO GOMEZ** . . . . . Puerto Rico
1 Ricardo Cardona* . . . . . Colombia
2 Nicky Perez . . . . . Tucson, Ariz.
3 Juan (Kid) Meza . . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
4 Jose Caba . . . . . Dominican Rep.
5 Soon Yun Chung . . . . . South Korea
6 Sergio Palma . . . . . Argentina
7 Javier Flores . . . . . Salt Lake City, Utah
8 Leo Cruz . . . . . Dominican Rep.
9 Shuchi Isogami . . . . . Japan
10 Hiroyuki Iwamote . . . . . Japan

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(not over 118 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
JORGE LUJAN* . . . . . Panama
1 Lupe Pintor** . . . . . Mexico
2 Carlos Zarate . . . . . Mexico
3 Alberto Davila . . . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
4 Juan F. Rodriguez . . . . . Spain
5 Roberto Rubaldino . . . . . Mexico
6 Oscar Muniz . . . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
7 Ricardo Bennett . . . . . Panama
8 Julian Solis . . . . . Puerto Rico
9 Andres Hernandez . . . . . Puerto Rico
10 Juan Alvarez . . . . . Mexico

FLYWEIGHTS
(not over 112 pounds)

WORLD CHAMPION
CHAN-HEE PARK** . . . . . South Korea
1 Yoko Gushiken . . . . . Japan
2 Betulio Gonzalez* . . . . . Venezuela
3 Miguel Canto . . . . . Mexico
4 Guty Espadas . . . . . Mexico
5 Sung-Jun Kim . . . . . South Korea
6 Charlie Magri . . . . . England
7 Joey Olivo . . . . . Los Angeles
8 Shoji Oguma . . . . . Japan
9 Netrnoi Vorasingh . . . . . Thailand
10 Rey Melendez . . . . . Dominican Republic

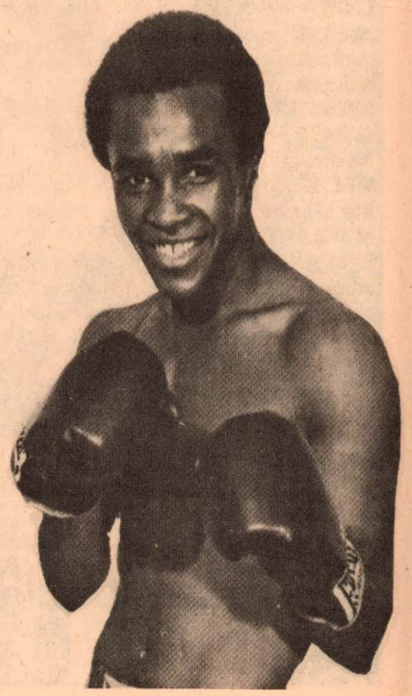


Holmes & Leonard Fighters of The Month

Two of the world's greatest fighters, WBC heavyweight king Larry Holmes and number one welterweight contender Sugar Ray Leonard, share this month's honor.

Leonard earned his portion of recognition via his first-round blitz of then eighth-ranked Andy Price. Never before had the undefeated Olympic hero — who is now 25-0 — been so utterly devastating.

Holmes had to rely on a stinging left jab, a powerful right uppercut, and courage the critics said he did not have, to beat the highly-rated and brutal-punching Earnie Shavers. In raising his record to 32-0, Holmes showed he can fight like a champion, pick himself up off the floor like a champion, and win like a champion.



HEAVYWEIGHTS: Ken Norton's retirement leaves a vacancy, which is filled in the number 10 slot by ex-champion Leon Spinks.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS: Mike Rossman's stunning upset loss to Ramon Ranquello drops him to ninth, as the rest of the division moves up.
MIDDLEWEIGHTS: No changes
JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS: No changes
WELTERWEIGHTS: Highly-impressive Ray Leonard moves to number one, ahead of WBA titleholder Pipino Cuevas. Andy Price, stopped by Leonard in round one, drops to 10th. Jorgen Hansen moves ahead of Pete Ranzany, whose future is cloudy.
JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS: Sam Ayala's loss drops him from 10th. Enter unbeaten Juan Jose Gimenez.
LIGHTWEIGHTS: No changes
JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS: No changes
FEATHERWEIGHTS: Abdul Bey drops from 10th, and is replaced by Nene Jun of the Philippines, who defeated him.
JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS: Baba Jiminez drops from 10th and is replaced by Japanese junior featherweight king Hiroyuki Iwamote.
BANTAMWEIGHTS: No changes
FLYWEIGHTS: No changes

Ring Rating 25 Years Ago

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Over 175 pounds)
World Champion
Rocky Marciano, Brockton, Mass.
1. Nino Valdes, Cuba
2. Don Cockell, England
3. Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati
4. Heinz Neuhaus, Germany
5. Jimmy Slade, New York, N.Y.
6. Bob Baker, Pittsburgh, Pa.
7. Roland LaStarza, New York, N.Y.
8. Earl Walls, Canada
9. Tommy Jackson, Far Rockaway
10. Dan Bucceroni, Philadelphia

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not over 175 pounds)
World Champion
Archie Moore, San Diego, Calif.
1. Billy Smith, Atlantic City, N.J.
2. Joey Maxim, Cleveland, O.
3. Paul Andrews, Buffalo, N.Y.
4. Harold Johnson, Philadelphia
5. Floyd Patterson, Brooklyn, N.Y.
6. Gerhard Hecht, Germany
7. Bob Satterfield, Chicago, Ill.
8. Willi Hoepner, Germany
9. Yolande Pompey, Trinidad
10. Jacques Hairabedian, France

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not over 160 pounds)
World Champion
Carl (Bobo) Olson, Honolulu
1. Joey Giardello, Philadelphia
2. Holly Mims, Washington, D.C.
3. Tiberio Mitri, Italy
4. Rocky Castellani, Cleveland
5. Pierre Langlois, France
6. Willie Troy, Washington, D.C.
7. Georgie Johnson, Trenton, N.J.
8. Eduardo Jausse, Argentina
9. Bobby Jones, Oakland, Calif.
10. Charley Humez, France

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not over 147 pounds)
World Champion
Johnny Saxton, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1. Kid Gavilan, Havana, Cuba
2. Carmen Basilio, Syracuse, N.Y.
3. Del Flanagan, St. Paul, Minn.
4. Ramon Fuentes, Los Angeles
5. Freddy Dawson, Chicago, Ill.
6. Al Andrews, Superior, Wisc.
7. Tony DeMarco, Boston, Mass.
8. Vince Martinez, Paterson, N.J.
9. Hector Constance, Trinidad
10. Wally Thom, England

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not over 135 pounds)
World Champion
Paddy DeMarco, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1. Jimmy Carter, New York, N.Y.
2. Orlando Zulueta, Cuba
3. Duilio Loi, Italy
4. Ralph Dupas, New Orleans, La.
5. Arthur Persley, Red Crosse, La
6. Cisco Andrade, Compton, Calif.
7. Johnny Gonsalves, Oakland, Calif.
8. Wallace (Bud) Smith, Cincinnati
9. Frankie Ryff, New York, N.Y.
10. Lulu Perez, Brooklyn N.Y.

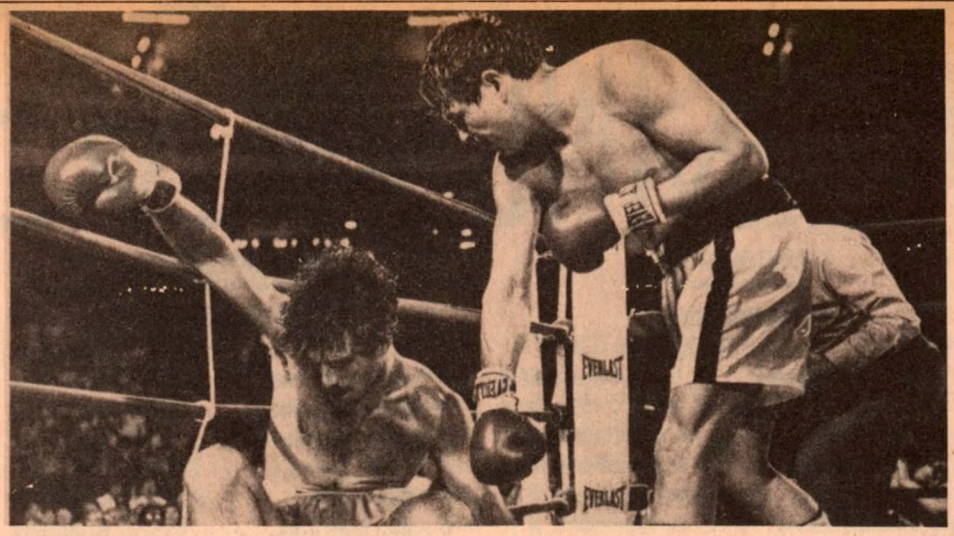
FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not over 126 pounds)
World Champion
Sandy Saddler, New York, N.Y.
1. Percy Bassett, Philadelphia, Pa.
2. Ray Famechon, France
3. Teddy Davis, Hartford, Conn.
4. Jean Sneyers, Belgium
5. Hogan (Kid) Bassey, Nigeria
6. Ciro Morasen, Cuba
7. Carmelo Costa, Brooklyn, N.Y.
8. Billy Kelly, Ireland
9. Shigeja Kaneko, Japan
10. Baby Ortiz, Mexico

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not over 118 pounds)
World Champion
Robert Cohen, France
1. Chamrern Songkitrat, Thailand
2. Raton Macias, Mexico
3. Pierre Cossemyns, Belgium
4. Mario D'Agata, Italy
5. Hilaire Pratesi, France
6. Andre Valignat, France
7. Peter Keenan, Scotland
8. Willie Toweel, South Africa
9. Nate Brooks, Cleveland, Ohio
10. Billy Peacock, Los Angeles

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not over 112 pounds)
World Champion
Yoshio Shirai, Japan
1. Leo Espinosa, Philippines
2. Pascual Perez, Argentina
3. Dai Dower, Wales
4. Eric Marsden, England
5. Danny Kid, Philippines
6. Tanny Campo, Philippines
7. Jake Tuli, South Africa
8. Nazzarino Gianelli, Italy
9. Mariano Diaz, Spain
10. Young Martin, Spain

From the December, 1954 issue of *The Ring*

RINGSIDE REPORTS



ROSSMAN-RANQUELLO

MEADOWLANDS, N.J. — "They took a diamond and turned it into carbon!"

Carmen Graziano had tears in his eyes when he spoke those words. He had just seen Mike Rossman lose on a sixth-round technical knockout to Ramon Ranquello. It was one of 1979's major upsets, and Graziano could not disguise his disappointment, heartbreak and frustration. He had been Rossman's trainer when the "Jewish Bomber" was a skinny, undefeated junior middleweight; when sportswriters were comparing his classic standup style, fast hands, long, powerful jab and fluid moves to Benny Leonard.

"They should have left the kid alone," said the always outspoken Graziano. "They took a flawless style and tampered with it. They punched holes in it. Now they have nothing. The kid could have been a great champion. Now he's going to have to struggle just to get his head together and pick up the pieces."

The "they" Graziano was referring to is Rossman's father/manager, Jimmy DePiano, and the men who have handled Rossman's training in the time Graziano has been out of the Rossman camp.

"What were Rossman's hands doing way back here?" said Graziano, holding both fists up against his chin in a peek-a-boo style. "And where was Rossman's defense? He never used to get hit with clean shots like the ones he got hit with tonight. One shot or two, sure. But never with the frequency Ranquello hit him. It's a shame, really."

Ranquello showed the crowd of 10,731 in Giants' Stadium that he meant business. With only 10 seconds gone in the first round, he found Rossman's chin with a hard overhand right. Rossman was not hurt, but he felt the punch, and opened his eyes wide as if to say, "This guy is here to fight!"

Ranquello, at 174½, pressured the 172½ pound Rossman throughout the opening round, and it was not until late in the round that Rossman began to find the range with his jab.

Rossman stayed on the move in round two, snapping Ranquello's head repeatedly with hard jabs. It was in this round he showed the complete recovery of his right hand, which was broken in his last outing, a title-losing effort against Victor Galindez last April. Several times he drilled right hands into Ranquello's body, punches that made the 26-year-old native of Chihuahua, Mexico, wince.

The third round was all Rossman. Hard combinations rattled Ranquello's head and forced him to hang on. Midway through the round, a right cross on the chin dropped Ranquello to all fours. He was up instantly, and began to move smartly, giving his head time to clear. A left hook finally found Ranquello's jaw, dropping him once more. With 30 seconds remaining, Rossman seemed assured of victory. Again Ranquello arose. He was hurt but in full control of his faculties. In the time that remained, Ranquello clinched and held on.

The ex-WBA light heavyweight king stayed in command in round four, working his jab well and mixing his combinations. It appeared that he was coasting, perhaps overconfident of victory.

Ranquello, with between-rounds instructions to "close the gap," stayed close to Rossman in round five. When Rossman moved back, Ranquello moved in. When Rossman punched, Ranquello punched.

The fight turned completely around with 1:22 remaining in round five. As Rossman hung a left jab in mid-air, Ranquello countered with a hard right to the chin. A left hook that was thrown from somewhere in the upper deck of Giants' Stadium then crashed against Rossman's head. He looked more frightened than hurt, and his corner shouted, "Move, Michael, move!"

Michael moved in round six, but the wrong way. By now, Ranquello had figured him out. Every time Rossman jabbed and moved to his own left, Ranquello fired an overhand right at Rossman's chin. Rarely did he miss. Rossman was shaken and con-

fused. But he was not alone. On one occasion, his corner was yelling, "Move to your left," which is exactly what he should *not* have been doing. The cornerman quickly realized his verbal slip-up, an hollered, "To the right, man, the right." It was too late. With 70 seconds to go in the round, a devastating right caught Rossman flush on the jaw, knocking him down for the first time in his career. He was up at four on wobbly legs.

Ranquello raced in, throwing punches as hard as he could. Rossman held and countered, but Ranquello was not to be denied. A crushing overhand right to the head dropped Rossman along the ropes, and he rose with his legs and body looking as if they were trying to go their separate ways. Referee Paul Venti allowed the fight to continue, but only for one more punch. There were 10 seconds left in the round when Ranquello was awarded the stunning upset victory.

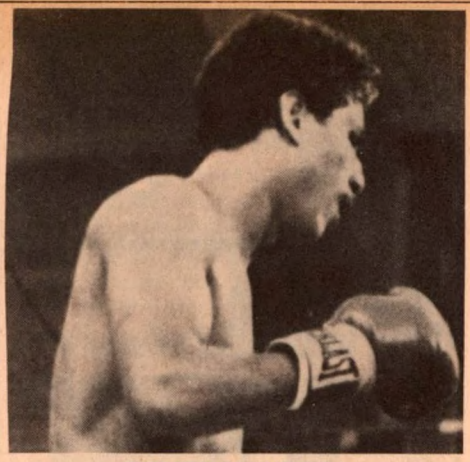
In the loser's dressing room, DePiano was livid, and fired charges that referee Venti "was probably with them (Ranquello), or in somebody's pocket." His outburst, which angered New Jersey State Athletic Commission officials, may cause DePiano to be fined or suspended.

Ranquello's victory, one of the most shocking in recent boxing memory, never saw the light of TV. Not because, as had previously been reported, ABC did not come up with the extra bucks, but because of some maneuverings — unique even to the Machiavellian world of boxing. Seems that promoter Lou Duva neglected to assign himself the TV rights to the fight. While Rossman's manager graciously waived his retained rights to Duva, Ranquello's asked for $1,500, $2,500, and then $5,000 on a "take it or leave it" basis. ABC left it and the fight was never seen on TV.

The sensational fight card, promoted by Danny Duva and Main Events, spotlighted fighters from New Jersey. In the three feature bouts underneath Rossman-Ranquello, Rocky Lockridge, 126, Wayne, outpointed Gerald Hayes, 126, Newark, over 12 rounds, to win the New Jersey State featherweight championship. In a 10-round bout billed as "The Battle of the Unbeaten Champions," New Jersey welterweight king Nino Gonzales, 156, Bayonne, went to 11-0 with a decision against state middleweight king Rusty Rosenberger, 156, Clifton. It was Rosenberger's first loss in 17 fights. Scott Frank, 208½, Oakland, halted Bill Connell, 209, Atlantic Highlands, at the end of the seventh round, despite fighting from round two with a fractured jaw.

Joe Grier, 148, Paterson, decisioned Mario Williams, Vineland, in a six-round welterweight match. Tom Merola, 157, Newark, halted Ray Rosa, 158, Paterson, in the second round of a scheduled four. Harry Fryar, Trenton, won a six-round decision against Mike Fisher, Lyndhurst, in a light heavyweight contest. In the show opener, Ali Allen, 218, Fair Lawn, halted Rubio Rodriguez, 191, Union City, in the opening session.

Randy Gordon



GOMEZ-MENDOZA
World Junior Featherweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — Wilfredo Gomez managed to retain his World Junior Featherweight Title, with a 10th round TKO over challenger Carlos Mendoza. Their title match was the opening bout of the star-studded fight card at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion in Las Vegas. The program climaxed with the WBC title bout between Larry Holmes and Earnie Shavers.

Wilfredo Gomez's 26th straight ring victory was not the early-round knockout that experts had predicted.

The feisty Mendoza, fighting out of Panama at 120½ pounds, gave the Puerto Rican puncher more than he had bargained for. And the disgruntled champion had more than his share of excuses for a subpar performance.

"I was a weakened man," said Gomez, through his interpreter. "I have been living only on tea for a week now, to come down to my fighting weight."

Gomez had arrived in Las Vegas, weighing 132 pounds. And the tea and sympathy diet became a requisite to trim down to the mandatory 122 pounds for his title defense.

Gomez also claimed that he hurt his right hand in the second round, and was forced to favor the left for the rest of the bout. However, his frequent use of straight rights and combinations lent little credibility to this excuse.

In the opening round, it was Mendoza who was the aggressor — using lightning footwork and a fierce left jab.

Gomez came on strong in the second round, dealing his opponent a series of uppercuts, followed by right-left combinations.

Mendoza countered with lefts to Gomez's body and head, and, at one point, had the champion pinned to the ropes.

Gomez pressed hard in the third round, and received the first of several warnings from the referee. The warning, for use of his elbows, spurred an irritated Gomez to charge his opponent, connecting with uppercuts to the body and shots to the head.

Gomez backed Mendoza into the ropes, but could not press his advantage.

The fourth round was all Mendoza's, as he attacked with uppercuts and combinations. Gomez countered with a left to the back of the head; and received the second of the referee's warnings.

Gomez came back strong to take the fifth and sixth rounds. But the seventh and eighth rounds belonged to Mendoza, who took command with fierce uppercuts and several left jabs which bloodied Gomez's nose and stunned him momentarily.

Gomez got his second wind by the ninth round, and worked with lefts to the head that had Mendoza staggering.

The 10th and final round was Gomez at his greatest. The champion was angry when referee Richard Green stopped the fight to inspect a slit in his left glove. The referee instructed the corner to change the glove between rounds, but Gomez would have none of it. Instead, he unleashed a broadside attack on Mendoza, cracking him with a right and then a left, which sent the challenger to the canvas.

Mendoza was up by the count of eight, but Gomez moved in quickly for the kill.

Gomez missed with several punches before connecting with a wicked left-right combination. A right sent Mendoza to the canvas a second time. As he got to his feet at the count of seven, Gomez was upon him, punching the now-hapless challenger at will. Referee Green finally stopped the fight at 2:29 of the 10th round.

Gomez admitted, after the fight, that this had been the toughest of his career — next to the one in which he had won the title from Dong Kyun-Yum in 1977.

Speaking through his interpreter, Dr. Pena Garciano, Gomez said: "The fellow did not use any specific tactics, so it was very difficult to cope with him. I was sure I would take him in three or four rounds, but the fight went much longer because I was weak from my diet to make the weight."

Gomez also made less-than-sporting references to the referee, stating: "The referee was trying to help the other fellow. He gave Mendoza every chance to get his wind back. And he kept giving me warnings that I didn't even understand."

Despite Gomez's claims, Referee Green's handling of the fight was considered first-class by officials and fans alike.

Gomez now holds the awesome record of 26-0-1, the only draw coming in his first professional fight. The champion declared that he planned to defend his title two more times.

Gomez's prime target for the future is featherweight champion Danny Lopez. "I know I can beat him," claims Gomez. "I have much more style than he does."

"I will take on Lopez at any time a bout can be arranged," proclaimed Gomez. "I will not leave this weight class without getting a shot at Danny Lopez and his featherweight title!"

—Shirley Norman

LEONARD-PRICE

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — The Sugar Ray steamroller claimed its 25th victim, as the welterweight idol clipped the wings of Andy "The Hawk" Price with a stunning knockout at 2:52 of the first round.

The Leonard-Price battle, for the NABF championship, was the semi-main attraction on the Larry Holmes-Earnie Shavers WBC heavyweight title card, held at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion in Las Vegas.

Leonard, at a trim 146 pounds, proved once and for all to doubters in the boxing world that he can punch as well as he can move, jab, dance, plus employ the most brilliant ring strategy since Muhammad Ali.

Fresh from a recent victory over Pete Ranzany, from whom he wrested the NABF welterweight title, Leonard gave the most impressive performance of his unbeaten career as he destroyed the eighth-ranked Price.

The 147 pound Andy Price, during his erratic career, had managed wins over two world champions: Pipino Cuevas and Carlos Palomino. He was considered, before the bout, to be Leonard's most formidable opponent to date.

However, it took the brilliant Sugar Ray three rounds less to demolish "The Hawk" than it had taken him to beat Ranzany, and an earlier opponent, the highly-regarded Tony Chiaverini.

The opening moments of the bout saw some familiar Sugar Ray strategy, as he came out slowly, circling his opponent, taunting him, and, as he later admitted: "just psyching him out." Price managed to land a couple of solid but ineffective right hands, then missed with some attempted lefts.

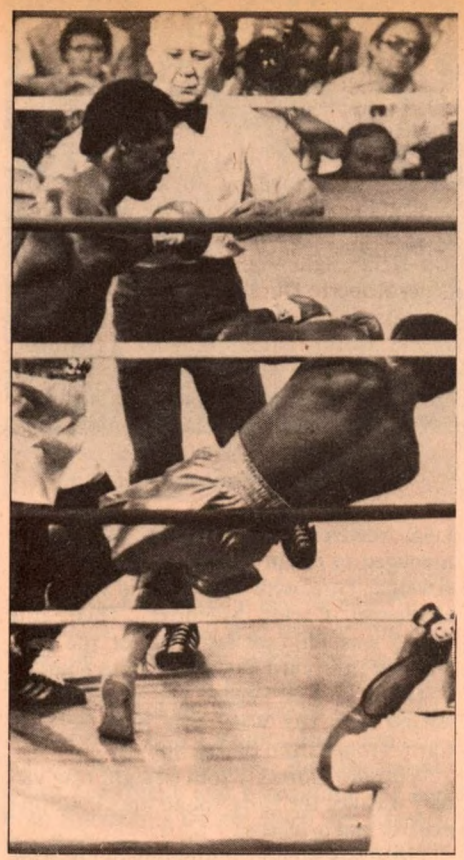
Leonard struck suddenly with the speed of lightning — landing a fierce uppercut to Price's jaw that caught "The Hawk" completely off guard.

Price dropped his hands and Sugar Ray moved in for the kill, pressing with a left lead and a stinging right. Leonard stalked his victim to the ropes, then dealt him two crunching lefts and a fury of left-right combinations.

Leonard delivered eleven consecutive punches to his opponent, missing with only one — the ninth.

The onslaught sent Price to the canvas, and referee Harry Krause began the count. Price attempted to get up at the count of seven, but to no avail. He keeled over completely, and, after the final count, had to be helped to his corner.

After the fight, a beaming Sugar Ray Leonard was full of humor as he quipped: "It makes me feel good when my opponents cooperate this way! Lots of people said this fight was going to be an upset. The only upset was the fact that he got off the canvas!"



Leonard then explained the strategy: "I came out slow for a reason — to keep him wondering. I made him lose his composure; because he never knew what to expect."

Asked about his remarkable 11 straight punches, Sugar Ray replied: "I didn't know it was that many. When I start throwing punches I never count. When I'm in the ring, I'm just using the special talent that God gave me for his own particular reasons."

The slow start — sudden onslaught strategy has defeated every one of Leonard's 25 opponents. It is the strategy that may well defeat champion Wilfred Benitez when he sees Sugar Ray Leonard soon, in a defense of his world welterweight title.

Sugar Ray Leonard is trained by Dave Jacobs and Janks Morton, with the final polishing done by the venerable Angelo Dundee.

Dundee expressed supreme confidence in his protege as he said: "Anybody Sugar Ray smacks in the first round can expect to be knocked out. My kid is going to be the next world welterweight champion. There is no doubt!"

Dundee paid sporting tribute to the ring abilities of opponent Andy Price, stating: "Price is a good fighter. But Sugar Ray is a *great* fighter!"

—Shirley Norman

PARK-CANTO
World Flyweight Title

SEOUL, KOREA — Mexico's Miguel Canto failed to regain the world flyweight title as he fought to a hard-battled draw with Chan-Hee Park, Korea's defending champ, in 15 hairline rounds at Chamsil Gymnasium.

This was a rematch. Park had surprisingly dethroned the crafty Mexican via a 15-round unanimous decision in Korea last March.

How close their return was could be shown by the official scoresheets. Italian referee Angelo Polletti, 136-136, Park; Korean judge Young Choon Choi, 138-136, Park; judge Mario Martinez of Mexico 137-135 Canto.

The 22-year-old Park, eight years Canto's junior, began with fireworks against the cautious Canto, winning the majority of the first five rounds.

Round five saw the only knockdown in the contest, as Park, an aggressive speedster, tossed a fast combination and followed with a flashing left that put the Mexican on the deck for the mandatory eight count.

Park, unbeaten in 12 bouts, went all out for a knockout, but Canto's defensive skills and counterpunches saved him from the crisis.

The speedy flyweights fought on even terms from the sixth to 10th rounds. How-

CERVANTES-KIM
World Junior Welterweight Title

SEOUL, KOREA — Antonio "Kid Pambele" Cervantes of Colombia retained his world junior welterweight crown, as he outscored Kwang-Min Kim, hitherto unbeaten Korean, by a split but popular decision in 15 rounds.

It was a rather lopsided affair, but the announcement of the split decision surprised many in the crowd.

Referee Stanley Christodoulou of South Africa and Venezuelan judge Fernado Viso scored it 149-140 and 149-138, respectively, in Cervantes' favor, while Korean judge Chung-Wun Chung had it 147-146 for Kim. The 21-year-old Kim, with a record of 15-0-1, with seven kayoes, revealed his lack of experience, compared to Antonio's 60-10-1 record, including 34 knockouts.

The shorter and younger Kim was very aggressive from the start, but Cervantes showed good defense and averted almost all of the challenger's opening attack.

Kid Pambele solved Kim's scrappy but monotonous way of fighting, and made good use of his stinging lefts to the face.

Having been dethroned by Wilfred Benitez by an upset decision in March, 1976, Cervantes regained the WBA version of the crown by beating Carlos Jimenez in an eliminator for the vacant throne in June,

ever, Canto, a technician who had defended his crown 14 times, solved the busy bobbing and weaving style of Park as the bout progressed. Park's fast pace, moreover, seemed to cause him to slow down.

Canto kept jabbing and scoring with left uppercuts to the body of Park, who threw fewer punches than in the earlier stages of the fight.

Canto was now the aggressor with a fine display of stinging lefts, winning the majority of the last five sessions. However, the Mexican veteran could not overcome the deficit, including the knockdown he had suffered in round five.

It was Park's second draw against 12 wins, and the fifth draw against 59 victories and four defeats for Canto. The 30-year-old Canto, of course, deserves a third meeting with Chan-Hee, but does Miguel, a wealthy man with hotels in his native Merida, want to take aim at recapturing the boxing title again?

Now that Park realizes the real power of Canto, the Korean may be reluctant to give him another return. It was a hairline contest. Park entered the ring at 111½ to Canto's 112.

We would also like to see the unbeaten Park meet hard-hitting ex-WBA champ Guty Espadas, up-and-coming British titlist Charlie Magri, or the current WBA boss, Betulio Gonzalez of Venezuela.

—Joe Y. Koizumi

1977. He regained the world recognition after Benitez graduated to the 147-pound throne by beating Carlos Palomino.

Kwang-Min was a rugged fighter, rated ninth by the WBA, who earned a crack at the crown by whipping rated compatriots Tae-Ho Kim and OPBF lightweight boss Yong-Ho Oh this year.

In every round, Kim kept boring in with roundhouse blows, to no avail. With his greater reach, Cervantes cleverly outboxed the youngster and piled up points.

Antonio's best was seen in round 11, when he threw a smashing left hook to the jaw, dropping Kim for the mandatory eight count. The Korean, boasting of his durability, weathered the storm by Cervantes, and fought back in the following rounds.

Antonio, 33 — 12 years Kim's senior — began to show fatigue despite his continual domination of the contest.

The 15th and final session saw Cervantes go down from a wild right at the beginning of the round. The third man, however, said it was only a slip.

The tired fighters mixed it ineffectively, and the bout was over. There was no question as to who had won. Kim is an up-and-coming prospect, but we can not help but admit that he had no chance against a crafty champ like "Kid Pambele."

—Joe Y. Koizumi

DURAN-GONZALEZ

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — "That man in the ring could win a Roberto Duran look-alike contest," quipped a ringside wagster at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion.

There was as much truth as humor in his droll statement. Because there was little resemblance between the lightning-fast former lightweight champion and the heavier, lazier Roberto Duran, who plodded around Caesars ring for 10 boring rounds.

The world-famous "hands of stone" seemed to have turned to clay as Roberto Duran, now fighting as a welterweight at 149½ pounds, showed little semblance of his former glory.

Duran did not really fight — he merely went through the motions. And he was unable to score even a knockdown against his journeyman opponent, Zeferino Gonzalez.

Gonzalez, also weighing 149½, had only 22 fights, compared to Duran's 68; but the little-known fighter stood toe-to-toe with Duran for a bout that, incredibly, went the distance.

In the first two rounds, Duran worked mostly with lefts to his opponent's body and head — lefts that were, for the most part, ineffective.

The third round saw Duran revert to his familiar swooping rights, many missing their mark.

By the third round, Gonzalez showed little fear of his once-formidable opponent; and began trading punch for punch. Gonzalez, using his height advantage of 6′ compared to Duran's 5′7″, landed some effective lefts to Duran's head and jaw.

Gonzalez attempted to fight inside, but was unable to break through the Duran defense.

At this point, the Gonzalez corner began yelling: "Box and move — build up points!"

In the middle rounds, it was a man-to-man battle, with Gonzalez trading punches and giving as good as he got to the once-awesome Duran. Gonzalez also gained enormous respect from the sell-out crowd, who began cheering for the underdog and booing the man who showed little semblance of a former champion.

Gonzalez' manager, Jesse Reid, yelled from the corner: "You're showing him too much respect. Get in there and move!"

Duran suffered a cut in the eighth round, when he pulled Gonzalez to him after a clinch and their heads collided in what looked like a butt.

Duran came to life in the ninth round, and showed some semblance of his former fighting skills. But Gonzalez countered his punches with long lefts and smart combinations. The round was a series of starts and stops; with both fighters punching and pulling back.

Gonzalez came on strong in the 10th round, and dealt Duran a crisp left hook which caused a cut over the left eye. The fighters traded combinations, clinched several times, and wore each other out by the end of the round.

The unanimous decision in favor of Duran was loudly booed by the fans. Manager Jesse Reid felt that Gonzalez's caution in the early rounds, plus his awe of Duran, had cost him the fight.

In spite of his plodding performance, Duran won the decision by a large margin. The score card read: judge Charles Minker, 98-92; judge Art Lurie, 99-92; and judge Harold Buck, 99-91.

Zeferino Gonzalez, beaming after a gutsy gallant performance, admitted that his awe of Duran had caused him to start slow and give up needed points.

Veteran trainer Freddie Brown, who had helped guide Roberto Duran to his incredible career as lightweight champion, expressed his concern about Duran before the fight. Said Brown: "He just won't listen to anybody. He won't train like he's supposed to. He acts like he just doesn't care. The problem is he's not hungry anymore; he's got too much money to work hard at this tough fight business!"

When asked about Duran's chances in a fight against welterweight idol Sugar Ray Leonard, Brown replied: "For Sugar Ray Leonard, it would be a different story. I know Duran like a book. And he would train like crazy for an opponent he thinks could beat him.

"He just didn't care anything about the Gonzalez fight today. For Duran, this one was just to go through the motions!"

—Shirley Norman

LOPEZ-CABA
World Featherweight Title

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — Fans at the Sports Arena were treated to a card featuring a world championship fight and bouts involving three world-class fighters. All of the talent on display was impressive.

The world champion in action on this card was Danny Lopez. Two of the world-class fighters in co-main event roles — Salvador Sanchez and Rueben Castillo — are waiting in the wings for their turn at Lopez' crown. Sanchez is rated ninth by Ring, Castillo is rated second. Lopez' stablemate, bantamweight contender Alberto Davila, also was in action on this card.

Lopez, 125½, Alhambra, Calif., successfully defended his WBC featherweight championship for the eighth time, stopping Jose Caba, 126, Dominican Republic, at 1:41 of the third round. It was simply Lopez spinning another web and catching another victim.

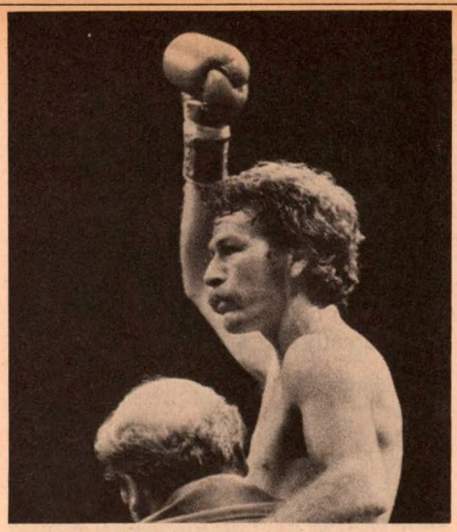
Like most of Danny's opponents, Caba went into the bout thinking, "This is going to be easy." That's because "Little Red" does not present the most elusive of targets. However, in his challenger's great haste to knock him out, they all invariably fall victim to his tremendous punching power. Later, they all say, "I fought a stupid fight. I shoulda' listened to my corner!" Those were Caba's exact words in the post-fight interview.

The 21-year-old Caba came out fast, buckling Danny's knees with a vicious right. He quickly followed the right with a series of left hooks. The first round belonged to the challenger, as Lopez caught seemingly every punch somewhere on his anatomy.

Round two started with Danny punching back with both hands to the head and body. Caba began to counter Lopez' jabs with hard rights to the face. A contingent of Caba's countrymen went crazy whenever their hero landed a punch.

Caba was growing over-confident as he continually nailed the easy-to-hit champion. But Lopez kept the pressure on, trying to maneuver Caba to the ropes. Whenever he did, Lopez would bang hard rights into Caba's side, punches that made him wince. He was beginning to feel Danny's presence.

Early in the third round, Lopez was hit with a stiff jab as Caba pressed the attack. The challenger was throwing caution to the wind, along with his pre-fight battle plan. As Caba threw looping left hooks and wild rights, Lopez stayed cool and kept his hands high, picking most of them off. The champion began a counter-attack that backed Caba up. Several times Lopez trapped Caba in a corner, and unleashed furious attacks to his body. Caba tried to fight back, but he was hurt and in trouble. He looked bewildered.



The champion was not throwing as many punches as he had earlier, but every one was lethal. They also were taking effect. Caba no longer was fighting to win. He was fighting for survival. He bobbed and weaved, desperately trying to escape Lopez' heavy artillery.

A jolting right to the head shook up the challenger. Seeing his opponent in trouble, Lopez stepped up his attack. A barrage of punches sat Caba on the lower strand of ropes. A pair of rights to the head sent Caba through the ropes and onto the ring apron.

Caba was back into the ring at eight. He seemed to know the end was near. Lopez was in total command. Moments later, Caba went through the ropes again from another flurry of blows. This time he was badly hurt.

He had just gotten his guard up when a Lopez right to the face draped Caba over the middle strand of ropes near his own corner. Referee Marty Denkin then rushed in and stopped the fight. Caba and his corner protested the stoppage, but Denkin's actions were correct. Caba was through, and even had a shell-shocked look several minutes later in the dressing room.

What's next for Lopez? Perhaps it will be a bout against Wilfredo Gomez. It is a bout which Lopez' manager, Benny Georgino says will be a million dollar fight.

Of the contenders, Rueben Castillo is apparently the best of the lot, and may be thrown against Lopez next. Mexico's Salvador Sanchez is also breathing down Lopez' neck. However, "Little Red's" future seems secure. WBA featherweight champion Eusebio Pedroza wants no part of Lopez or the three fighters mentioned above. Danny is the champion no matter what. He is the man to beat.

Salvador Sanchez, 128, Mexico, TKO'd Richard Rozelle, 124¼, Columbus, Ohio, at 1:55 of the third round. Rueben Castillo, 131, Bakersfield, Calif., knocked out Roberto Negro Torres, 129¾, Mexico, three. Alberto Davila, 117, Pomona, Calif., won a unanimous decision over Jose Resendiz, 119¼, Mexico, 10. Jaime Garza, 119, San Antonio, Texas, stopped Ramon Barrera, 119½, in the third round of a scheduled six-rounder.

Paid attendance: 4,296. Gross: $86,678.

The show was co-promoted by Don Georgino, Harry Kabakoff, and Jesus Pimentel.

—Louis Mesorana

HOPE-BAKER
WBC Junior Middleweight Title

LONDON, ENGLAND — Maurice Hope, born in Antigua but living in London since the age of nine, retained his WBC junior middleweight title by beating American Mike Baker at Wembley Pool. The bout was stopped at 2:30 of round seven with Baker still upright, but under severe pressure and not hitting back.

A conclusive victory, but Baker was strong and put up a great fight before being subdued by champion Hope, who was at his cool, calculated best.

As the bout was being filmed for later showing on American TV, Maurice was anxious to prove to the television moguls in the United States that he is worthy of further "exposures" on worldwide TV, and I would think that he did just that.

The only knockdown came in round seven, when Hope stalked his man, set him up with southpaw right jabs, then brought over a left cross. This landed on the jaw, and Baker dropped his hands, stood there swaying momentarily, and then paid a delayed-action visit to the canvas.

Somehow, he managed to beat the count, heaven knows how. A relentless Hope came at him again, and, with the American having stopped fighting back, referee Raymond Baldeyrou intervened.

Baker protested at the stoppage, and one could imagine his disappointment. But at that stage he was a well-beaten fighter, and the referee's action was a correct and merciful one.

Six months earlier, Hope had taken the title from Rocky Mattioli. Mattioli retired

CARDONA-SEGAWA
WBA Junior Featherweight Title

HACHINOHE CITY, JAPAN — Colombia's Ricardo Cardona retained his WBA junior featherweight title, as he survived a knockdown in the first round and scored heavily with his longer reach to win a unanimous decision over Yukio Segawa, a Japanese lefthander, in 15 heats. The bout took place before some 7,000 spectators at the City Gymnasium in Hachinohe, Segawa's native place, in the farthest northern Aomori prefecture from Tokyo.

The opening round saw the defending champ down on his right knee from Segawa's sharp right hook to the face. The 26-year-old Cardona stood up immediately, but he looked bewildered by the challenger's southpaw style.

Segawa, 25, kept mixing it up, and appeared to be in command in the second session. Cardona, about two inches taller at 5'8", was fighting instead of his usual "boxing".

The third was almost even, the Colombi-

ostensibly because of a hand injury, but this had been caused when he fell to the canvas after Hope had knocked him down in the first round.

Ever since, Hope has been anxious to prove that he could win a title fight without his opponent being handicapped, and he proceeded to do this against Baker in no uncertain fashion.

In the opening round, Hope jabbed confidently and accurately with his southpaw right, but Baker was always willing to punch with him.

Baker had entered the ring with puffiness under both eyes, and he sustained grazes on those places as the fight progressed. As early as the second, Baker was marked under the right eye, but it didn't look serious.

The American continued to give as good as he got in round two, but the cleaner work was coming from Hope, who seemed to be sizing his man up before showing aggression.

Baker did his share of leading too, so Hope let him get on with it, and counterpunched to good effect.

In round four, a solid left to the jaw shook the American, the first decisive punch of the fight. Thus encouraged, the champion opened up in the following session, and this was the beginning of trouble for Baker. The latter took six hard jabs without replying, and the fans could sense that Hope was going all out for a quick victory.

But Maurice hadn't reckoned with Baker's strength. The American not only survived everything that was thrown at him, but came back with rights to the head.

Hope again came forward to launch a two-handed assault, and again Baker stayed with him. This was some round, and both men deserved the ovation at the end of it.

Unaccountably, Hope chose not to follow up his advantage in round six, and appeared to be taking a breather. These tactics were difficult to understand.

When Baker realized what was happening, or what was *not* happening, he came in hooking with both hands, still very strong — or apparently so.

Manager Terry Lawless talked earnestly to Hope at the end of the round, and the result was quickly forthcoming. Maurice raised the pace in round seven. There was no dallying now, and Baker was hard put to it to withstand the champion's aggression.

Hope seemed determined not to stop attacking until his opponent wilted, and eventually this is what happened. A left to the chin, and down went Baker, as described.

On rising, he was pinned in his own corner, with Hope throwing everything but the kitchen sink at him. He managed to extricate himself, and got to the center of the ring, but Hope was at him, chasing, jabbing, hooking. There was no escape and back went the American against the ropes.

His head was lowered, and he wasn't punching back, whereupon the referee made a timely intervention.

It had been a competent, clinical performance by Hope. True, he had been expected to win, but it was the manner of his victory that was all important.

Hope was delighted, but was quick to pay tribute to his opponent. "He looked frail at the weigh-in," said 'Mo.' "But he came on strong, and did quite a bit of leading. In fact, I seemed to be doing most of the counterpunching.

"He showed a lot of courage. Every time I hit him I could hear him grunt. I honestly don't know what kept him up. He had good cornermen to encourage him to keep going like he did.

"It is one of my ambitions to defend my title in my birthplace of Antigua, and I hope that something can be arranged."

WBC lightweight champion Jim Watt, acted as inter-round summarizer for the radio commentary, and provided some shrewd observations.

European flyweight champion Charlie Magri, also managed by Terry, stopped Mexican Raul Pacheco in round six.

Dave "Boy" Green, in his first contest since losing his European welter crown, stopped American Steve Michalerya in three.

—Ron Olver

an champ seemed to regain his pace and dominated the fourth and fifth rounds. Cardona utilized his straight punches and prevented the challenger from boring in. Segawa began to bleed from a gash over the left eyebrow in round four.

The sixth session was dominated by Segawa, an ex-Olympian with an 8-1 record, including seven knockouts, who chased the champ all the way and nailed him to the ropes with a flurry of punches.

Cardona seemed to have solved the puzzling lefty's style, and outpunched and outboxed him to take the eighth, ninth, and 10th. Segawa looked like he was fading.

The challenger, however, came back strongly in round 11, when he stood in the center of the ring and shook up Cardona with good rights following straight lefts to the face. It was Segawa's round, but then the tide completely turned for Cardona. The challenger's fatigue made him keep circling to his right, while Cardona pressed the action with straight punches. The 12th and 14th rounds were clearly taken by the lanky champ.

Cardona's best was witnessed in the final round,when he swarmed over the weary southpaw with a right-left-right combination. The solid combo sent Segawa reeling to the ropes and onto the canvas. The Japanese fighter managed to beat the count at eight, but he looked wobbly.

Cardona might have finished Segawa, but he was too tired to follow up. There was a lot of clinching and then the bell sounded to end the gruelling affair.

Referee Larry Rozadilla, a Californian veteran, tabbed the fight 145-139, while judges Ernesto Magana of Mexico and Japanese Yusaku Yoshida had it 147-140 and 147-146, respectively, all in Cardona's favor. The victor improved his record to 24 wins, with 13 kayoes, against four defeats and three draws.

It was Ricardo's fourth defense of the title he had won by stopping Korea's Soo-Hwan Hong in the 11th round in May, 1978.

Three of the four challengers were Orientals, and the fight sites were in Korea and Japan with some $100,000 paid to Cardona every time. This was because Cardona, with a loose defense and not much convincing power, had Oriental promoters interested in making their own attractions into world champions. These promoters seldom wanted to match their boys with Wilfredo Gomez, the WBC world champ, a formidable knockout artist.

Cardona delightfully said, "Segawa was a good fighter with great gameness and durability. As I had seen films of his previous fights, I decided to mix it up from the start. It was my most perfect showing."

If it was his best performance, missing a kayo over such a groggy challenger in the closing rounds, then Oriental impresarios will call for his next defense in the very near future.

Cardona tipped the beam at 121½, a quarter pound lighter than Segawa. The card was presented by Akihikp Honda's Teiken Promotions and nationally telecast through Nippon TV.

Gen Akutsu, 130¾, won a shutout decision over Takeshi Fukui, 130½, eight. Unbeaten Shuichi Hozumi, 109¾, kayoed Hammer Yoshida, 109¾, in the seventh. Tsutomu Itokazu, 119¼, made a successful debut by decisioning Yoshiya Shizuka, 119½, six. Ryuji Hisamatsu, 123¼, won a unanimous decision over Kazuyiki Shimodate, 123¼, six.

—Joe Y. Koizumi

DAVIS-WATKINS

HOUSTON, TEXAS — Howard Davis, the ex-Olympic champ, remained undefeated in 12 pro fights as he sped his way to a 10 round unanimous decision over Maurice "Termite" Watkins before a live crowd of 4,200 at the Summit and a nationwide television audience. Davis used his lightning fast left hook and left jab to pile up points in mid ring, while Termite attempted to score to the body with left hooks to slow him down. Davis' speed of hand and foot made Watkins look rather awkward at times, but the Houston based Watkins never quit trying to get inside. Termite's main weapon was a hard left hook, which landed nearly every time he threw it; he simply didn't throw it often enough to have any real effect on the 133½-pound Davis. A crisp right hand counter punch by Davis opened a cut under the 135-pound Watkin's left eye in the eighth round, and from that point on, the final outcome was never in doubt. These two classy fighters stood toe-to-toe in the final round and attempted to put each other away; they simply didn't have enough left at that point to accomplish the task, but it was a fitting ending to an exciting fight.

Madison Square Garden matchmaker Gil Clancy, at ringside to do color commentary for the television broadcast, hopes to match Davis against W.B.A. lightweight champ Ernesto Espana in the near future. A more likely foe for Howard may be either Sean O'Grady or Aaron Pryor — both highly regarded, and both at ringside for this match. For Watkins, it's back to the drawing board. His 46-3-1 record should speak for itself, but he does need to gain some experience against tougher competition before stepping in against any more of the names in the division.

Referee Carlos Padilla of Las Vegas scored it 100-95 in favor of Davis. Judge Duane Ford of Las Vegas had Howard the victor by a 97-94 margin, and judge Richard Steele of Los Angeles had Davis in the lead by a 98-93 tally.

The night's real crowd pleasing bout was the semi-final 10 which didn't end until nearly 1 a.m. Journeyman Larry Stanton of New York won a split decision over previously undefeated Sammy Ayala of San Antonio. Stanton was decked by the southpaw Ayala in the sixth, but got up to deck Sammy in the 10th and final round and seal his victory. Both of these junior welters were considerably over the 140-pound weight limit at 146 each; and it appeared that the bewhiskered Stanton's greater experience enabled him to carry the excess baggage better down the stretch. Referee Chris Jordan and judge Bob Martin had Stanton the winner by 97-93 and 95-92 margins, respectively, with judge Mark Tessman's scorecard showing 95 points for each man.

The card was promoted by World-Wide Promotions of Houston and Beaumont.

Rocky Ramon, San Antonio, and Juan Garcia, Mexico, drew, 10, lightweights. Bubba Busceme, Beaumont, stopped Simmie Black, Memphis, at 1:12 of the third round in a scheduled lightweight 10. Jerry Kornele, Galena Park, won by a disqualification over Roy Escalante, Fort Worth, in the seventh of a junior lightweight 10. Wilford Scypion, Port Arthur, TKO'd Jose Gomez, Mexico, six, middleweights. Tom Trim, Galena Park, halted Larry Montgomery, Fort Worth, in the first round of a scheduled four-rounder, heavyweights.
Attendance — 4,200.

—C.A. Jackson

DOKES-YOUNG

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — A young and arrogant Michael Dokes piled up his 15th straight win with a unanimous decision over an aging, overweight Jimmy Young.

Their heavyweight battle was the walkout bout of the Larry Holmes-Earnie Shavers title card at Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion in Las Vegas.

Dokes, at 211, was 18 pounds lighter and 10 years younger than the 31-year-old Young, who came into the ring at a flabby 229 pounds.

The showboating Dokes entered the ring throwing roses to the ladies around ringside.

This, unfortunately, was the only exciting moment of the 10-round bout.

The opening round saw Young using his familiar defensive tactics. He kept both gloves over his face, attempting to ward off Dokes' left jabs. Young delivered a blow to Dokes mid-section, which caused the youngster to crouch in pain, claiming a low blow.

Dokes stalled for several seconds, pretending intense pain, while Young yelled to the referee: "Give him all the rest he needs."

The tactic is one Dokes has used since his days as an amateur — a tactic which draws attention, sympathy, and extra seconds of rest.

Coming out of his crouch, Dokes started an attack on Young's body — an attack he continued into the second round with strong rights to the head and lefts to the body.

Young became the aggressor in the third round — throwing some solid punches and combinations. Dokes countered effectively, and the fighters traded jabs for the latter part of the round.

The fourth and fifth rounds saw a still-aggressive Jimmy Young, as the former top contender landed some good straight rights and effective combinations. By the sixth round, he stalked Dokes to a corner, and the pair traded punches until Dokes' temperamental corner man threw a towel at him.

The seventh round was Young's best, as he again turned aggressor and caught Dokes with several uppercuts and combinations. Dokes was again caught in the corner and proceeded to clinch until he was warned by referee Carlos Padilla.

By the eighth round, Young was visibly tired and bleeding from the forehead. He reverted to his strictly defensive strategy, holding both gloves over his face.

In the ninth round, Young went to the canvas momentarily; but the move was ruled a slip, and the fight continued. Jimmy managed a good left jab, only to be butted in the head by Dokes.

The 10th round was a mix-'em-up battle, with Young attempting to land his lefts and Dokes moving backward to stay out of the way.

The bout was an epic of dirty fighting and utter boredom. But the stamina and aggression of the younger Dokes won out, and he emerged with a unanimous decision. Judge Duane Ford scored the bout 96-93; Dalby Shirley ruled it 96-94; and Lou Tabat scored the widest margin with 97-92.

Although his performance was anything but impressive, Dokes held court in the dressing room of his stablemate, WBC heavyweight champion Larry Holmes. (Dokes is managed by Carl King, son of promoter Don King.)

The young man spouted at length about his superior ring talents — talents which were not evident in this particular bout, but which have gained him a now unbeaten record of 15-0.

Jimmy Young was not available for comment. But his corner men moaned. "He just wouldn't listen. He wouldn't do anything we told him to. He wanted to fight his own way; and he paid for it."

Young is trained by former top middleweight contender Georgie Benton, who hoped to put his fighter back into top contender status.

Said Benton, along with corner man Mickey Grandinetti: "His head must have been some place else. He could have won this fight easily if he'd just followed our instructions."

The loss to Dokes coming soon after two losses to Osvaldo Ocasio, may just spell the end of a ring career for Jimmy Young — the man who, just two years ago, was along with Ken Norton, the top heavyweight contender in the world.

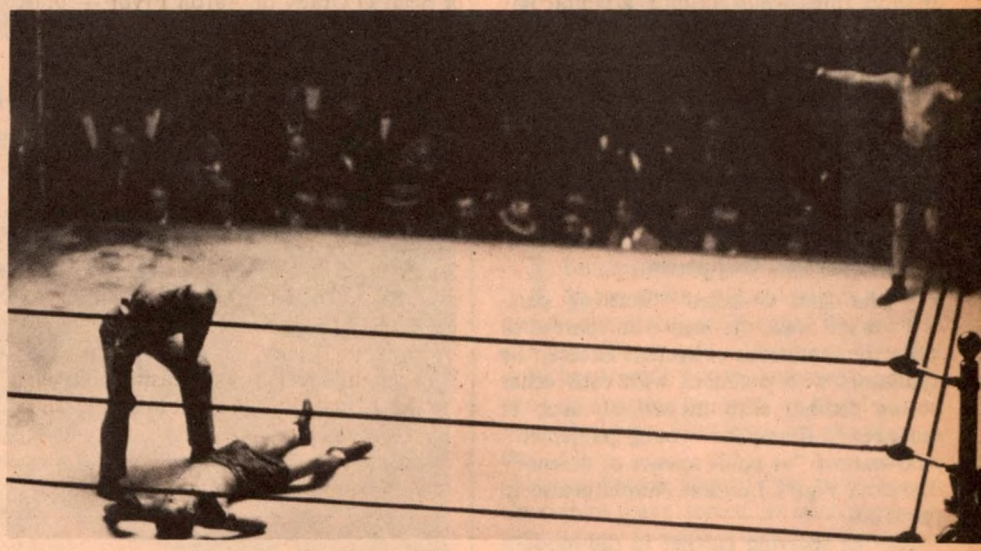
—Shirley Norman

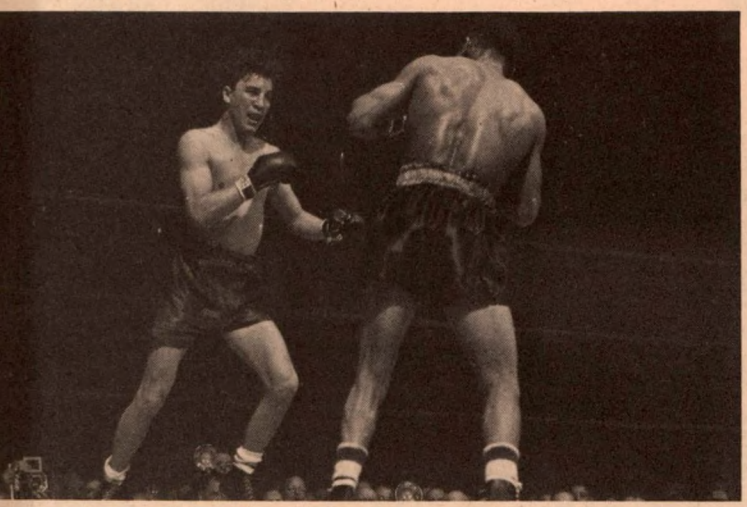
THE RING ALBUM

It Happened In December

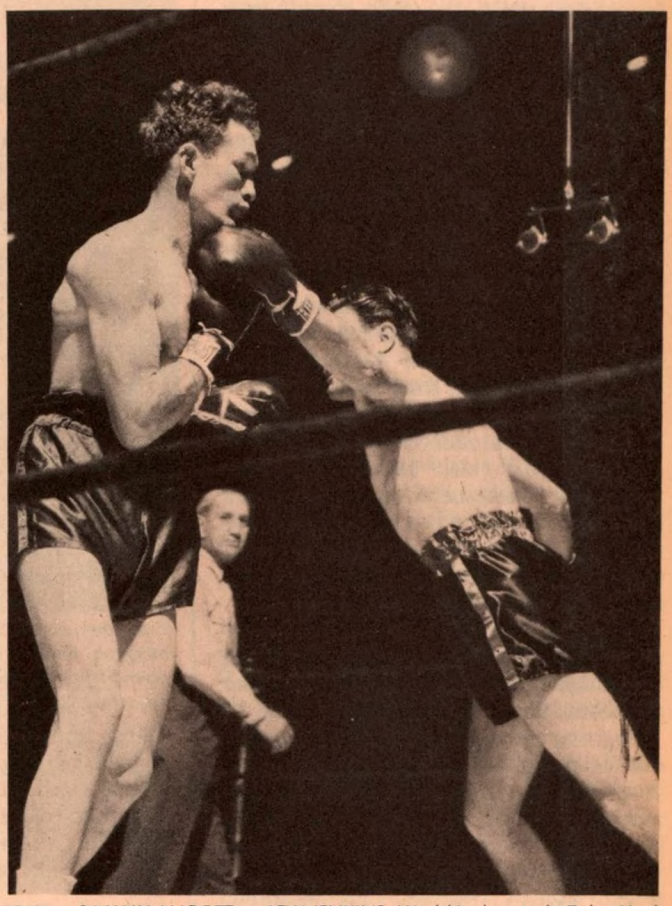
1920 — JACK DEMPSEY vs. BILL BRENNAN. World Heavyweight Title. Madison Sq. Garden, December 14, 1920. Dempsey won by kayo in the 12th.

1929 — JIMMY McLARNIN vs. RUBY GOLDSTEIN. Madison Sq. Garden, December 13, 1929. McLarnin won by kayo in the second.

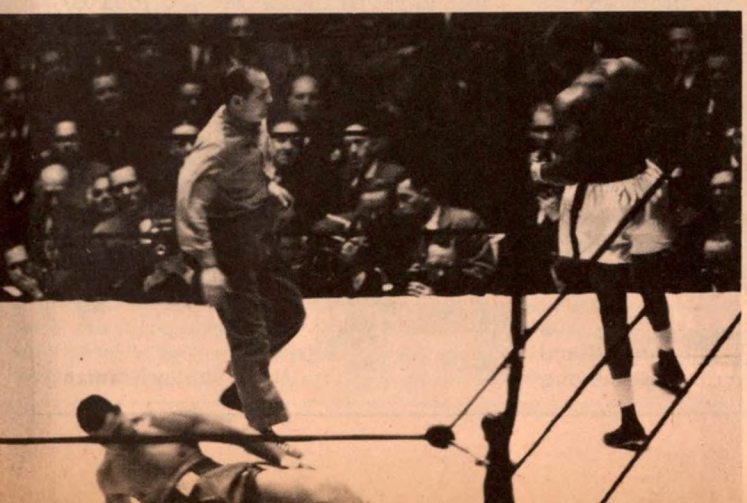




1942 — BEAU JACK vs. TIPPY LARKIN. New York State World Lightweight Title. Madison Sq. Garden, December 18, 1952. Jack won the vacant title by a kayo in the third.



1941 — SAMMY ANGOTT vs. LEW JENKINS. World Lightweight Title. Madison Sq. Garden, December 19, 1941. Angott won the title on a 15-round decision.



1947 — JOE LOUIS vs. JERSEY JOE WALCOTT. World Heavyweight Title. Madison Sq. Garden, December 5, 1947. Louis won a 15-round split decision.

THE SPARRING PARTNER THROUGHOUT HISTORY

WHERE HAVE-NOTS SOMETIMES TURN INTO HAVES

By Herbert G. Goldman

The first so-called "sparring partners" were the men who sparred in the academies of ancient Greece, the gladiators who practiced with each other before combat with the cestus, and, in more recent times, the "young gentlemen" who learned "ye noble science of defence" in James Figg's London Amphitheatre in the 1720s.

But the sparring partner in the modern sense of the term — one who boxes with a fighter in order to prepare him for a big match — had its origins in the days when large purses for big fights led to "training camps." And, it was in those camps that boxers — champions and challengers alike — had specific men they preferred working with. These men were to become known as "sparring partners."

John L. Sullivan's favorite sparring partner was Jack Ashton. In 1888, while training for his bare knuckle championship fight with Charley Mitchell, John L. gave a sparring exhibition with Ashton for the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII).

The sparring partner really came into his own with the introduction of the Marquis of Queensberry rules. James J. Corbett, first of the Queensberry champions, sized up Sullivan when the two men sparred four rounds in San Francisco. "I can beat this man," said Corbett to his second after the affair. "He's a sucker for a feint."

That was June 26, 1891. Corbett's estimation of John L. proved correct when, on September 7, 1892, Gentleman Jim kayoed the Boston Strong Boy in the 21st round.

Sparring partners proved to be dangerous for champions in the lighter weight divisions as well. In the mid 1890s, a young, unknown fighter named Charles (Kid) McCoy was hired as a sparring mate for world welterweight champion Tommy Ryan. McCoy resented his position, though, and vowed to beat Ryan. The Kid pretended to be a patsy, and eventually lured Ryan into what the latter was made to see as a "sure win" title defense.

Three of Earnie Shavers' sparring partners pose after a workout. They are, left to right, John Girowski, Eddie Porette and Terry Nicopolis. A fourth sparring partner, Calvin Langston, was applying ice to his face when this photo was taken. The "Larry Holmes" headgear — half psychology, half publicity — reminded Shavers whom he would be hitting.

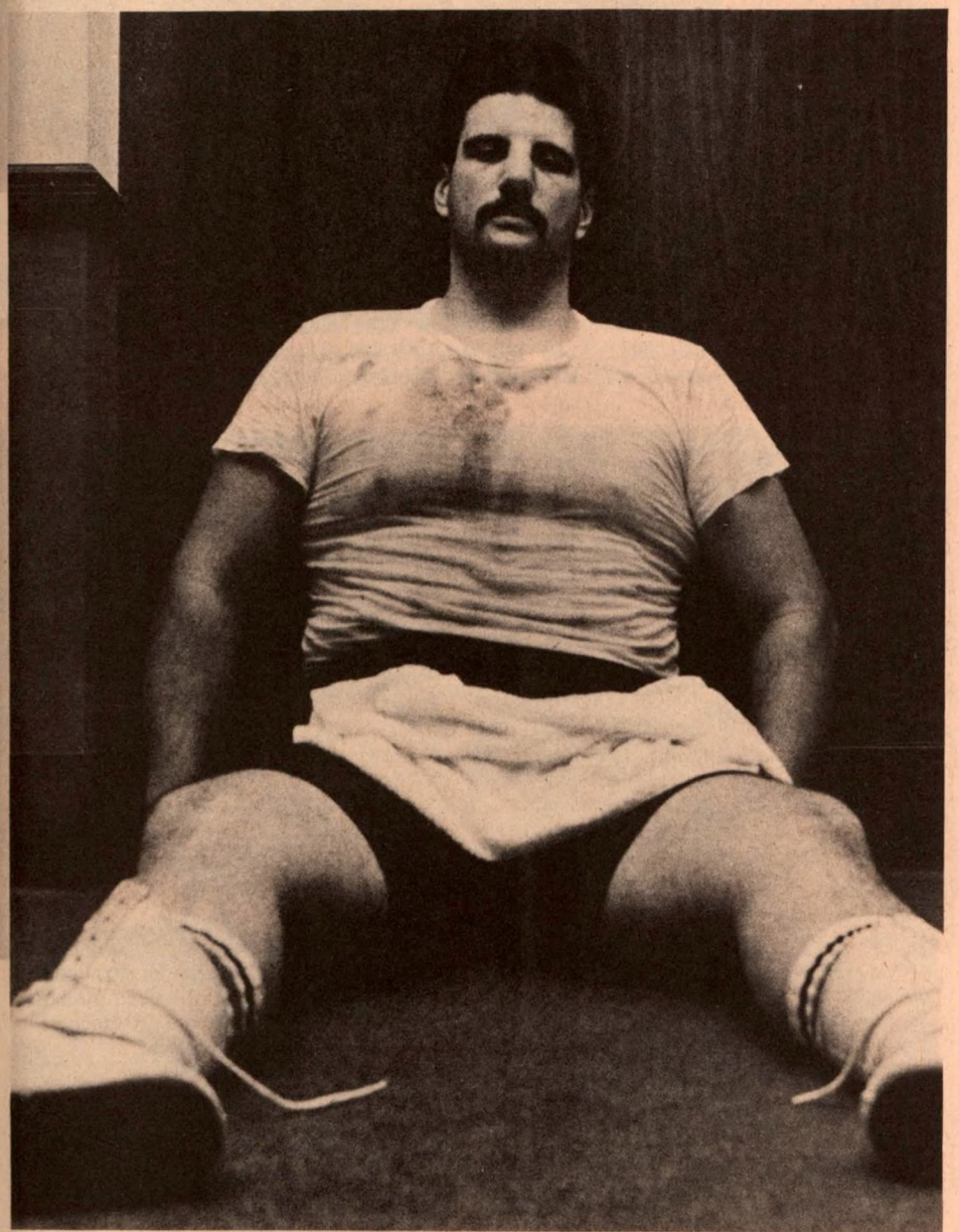
Every day except Sunday, the schedule was the same, beginning with a 3-5 mile run at 6:00 in the morning. Shavers and his sparring partners pursued the same routine until mid-afternoon. At that point Shavers continued his workout, while his sparring partners went to lick their wounds. Compare the schedules:

	SHAVERS		SPARRING PARTNERS
6:00	3-5 mile run	6:00	3-5 mile run
6:30	Agility excercises	6:30	Agility excercises
7:30-12:00	Breakfast, short rubdown, rest	7:30-12:00	Breakfast and back to bed
12:30-2:30	Workout and sparring sessions	12:30-2:30	Workout and sparring
3:00-5:30	Swim, chop wood	3:00-4:00	Steambath to ease the body pains; swim
6:00	Dinner	4:00-7:00	Free
7:00-8:30	Relax, watch fight films, etc.	7:00	Dinner
8:30-9:15	Oil rubdown	8:00-On	Free
9:30	Sleep		

THE LOT OF A SPARRING PARTNER IS NOT AN EASY ONE

THE TRIBULATIONS OF TODAY'S TRIAL HORSES

Photos and Captions by Russell Schwartz



Sparring partners come and go, depending upon how much they can take and how valuable they are. Some, like young contenders or talented amateur champions, come up for four or five days merely to test themselves against the best their division can offer. For others, the pay is good, the food is healthy, they're breathing clean country air, they share in a bit of the spotlight and . . .

Not only was McCoy anything but a patsy, but he'd had a chance to closely study Ryan's style. "I got so I knew Ryan's every move," said McCoy. "He had a sound style, was an excellent athlete and a strong man, but there was nothing tricky about his stuff. He was a sound fighting man and born for the game, but I found out what he had in the training camp and knew what to do about it when I got Tommy in the ring."

Before the fight, McCoy, shedding his "poor lamb who needs the money" act, banged on the Champ's dressing room door. Then he opened it and stuck his head in.

"Ready for a damn good beating?" he asked Tommy.

Ryan was even more stunned when his former sparring partner knocked him out in 15 rounds.

There are, as a rule, two basic ways of becoming a fighter. One is to start as an amateur, win prestigious titles, and turn professional in style. The other is to start off as a pro — known as "making it the hard way". It's the latter who usually serve as sparring partners on their way to what they hope is success and the big pay day.

More than a few of the heavyweight champions have served as sparring partners. James J. Jeffries was Corbett's sparring partner when the latter was getting ready for Bob Fitzsimmons in 1897. Jeff lost his temper when his boss started to "go to work" on him during a workout in a barn. He tore into Corbett, picked him up, and hurled him against the wall with enough force to make people outside wonder what was going on. Jeff wound up fighting Corbett for the title twice, kayoing him both times.

Jack Johnson, one of the greatest heavyweights in history, was a sparring partner for many prominent fighters during the first five years of his career, including, among others, world welterweight champ Joe Walcott, and Kid Carter. According to boxing-writer-cartoonist Tad Dorgan, "Li'l Artha" first came to the attention of the press while he was working for Carter in 1901 at Croll's Gardens in Alameda, Calif., when Carter was getting ready for one of his fights with George Gardner.

Jack Dempsey was Carl Morris' sparring partner in 1916. Jersey Joe Walcott spent one day as a Joe Louis sparring partner when the Brown Bomber was preparing for his losing effort against Max Schmeling in 1936.

On that day, Jersey Joe knocked Louis off his feet with a right hand. Walcott later said that he was fired on the spot by Chappie Blackburn. But Ike Gellis, sports editor of the New York *Post*, said that "Walcott was the one who quit. They wanted him to box some more that very day. They offered him a raise if he'd go one or two more rounds. He wasn't having any more of it." Jersey Joe later dropped Louis three times

in two championship fights.

James J. Braddock was a sparring partner, too. In fact, that's how he got his start with manager Joe Gould. Gould had what he thought was a promising young heavyweight in Harry Galfund. Somebody made him an attractive offer for the Galfund contract, and Joe arranged for the prospective buyer to see Harry in a gym workout. Gould chose Braddock, then an unknown, as the "opponent," and Jim proceeded to hand Galfund a pasting. That killed the sale, but it also gave Joe Gould a future heavyweight champion.

Heavyweight champions have often been identified with certain sparring partners. Johnson had George (Kid) Cotton; Dempsey had 6'6" Bill Tate for strength, Jamaica Kid, a tough light heavyweight, for brawling, and Panama Joe Gans, one of the top middleweights of the 20s, for speed. Louis had George Nicholson, whose main asset was his ability to "take it", a natural requirement for working with the Bomber. Keene Simmons, a club fighter TKO'd by Marciano in Providence on January 29, 1951, was Rocky's chief sparmate from then on, Sonny Liston's was Amos (Big Train) Lincoln, and George Foreman's was Eddie (Bossman) Jones.

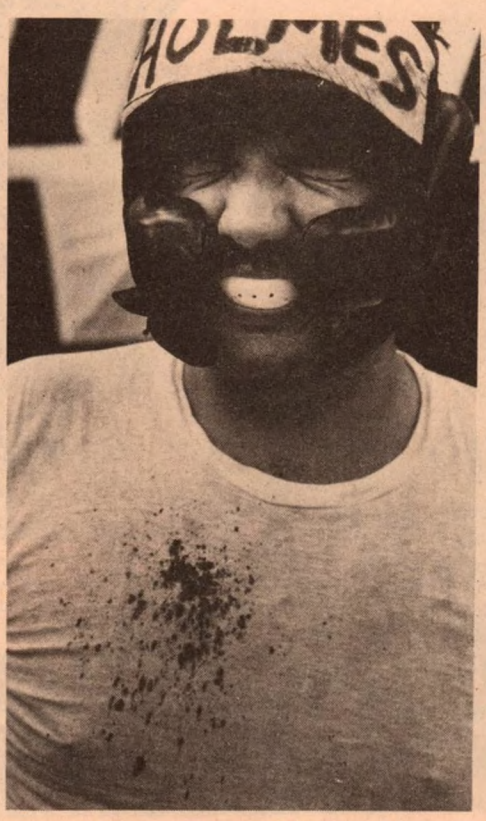
But the man recognized as the "greatest sparring partner of all-time" was Bob Armstrong of Washington, D.C. Bob, a heavyweight who started fighting in Chicago battle royals in the 1890s and hung up his gloves after losing a close decision to Denver Ed Martin in 1908, had the ability to imitate the fighting style of almost any pugilist. According to one story, Kid McCoy had Armstrong literally kidnapped to prepare him for his fight with Sailor Tom Sharkey, who fought out of a crouch. Armstrong, who didn't appreciate being hit on the head with a blunt instrument and carried to another training camp, didn't do his job properly, however, with the result that Sharkey knocked out McCoy in the 10th.

Armstrong was Jim Jeffries' opponent when the ex-boilermaker made his New York debut on August 5, 1898 and went the 10 round distance. Bob was later Jeffries' sparring partner when Jeff prepared for Jack Johnson, and Bob floored the former champion with a short upper-cut, an incident which was hushed until after the big fight.

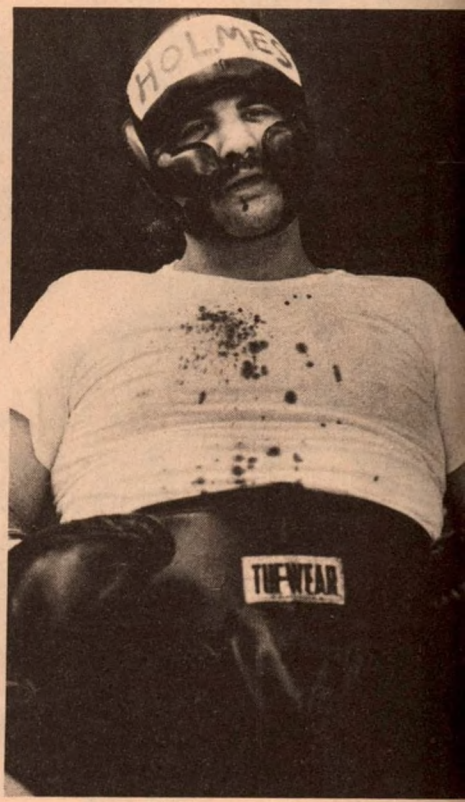
George Godfrey, the "Leiperville Shadow," was Dempsey's sparring partner when Jack was training for his fight with Tommy Gibbons in 1923. Godfrey was not from Leiperville, but his manager, Jim Dougherty, was. The story may or may not be true, but the fact remains that Dougherty refereed the Dempsey-Gibbons fight. Godfrey, incidentally, might have become heavyweight champion if he had fought in a different era. But black heavyweights were "don't invites" to heavyweight championship fights in the '20s and early '30s.

Speaking of black heavyweights — and Dempsey — Jack might not have faced too

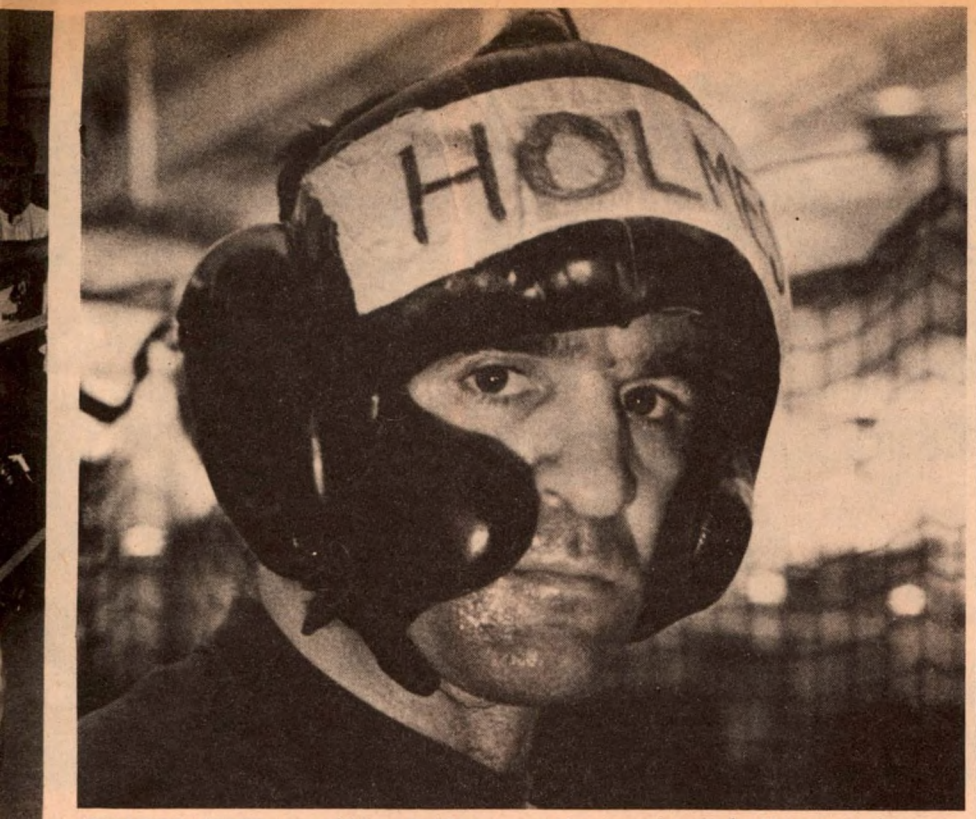
"When Earnie starts to bear down on you" says Terry of three harrowing minutes in the ring, "sometimes it's just best to close your eyes and hope the Good Lord is watching over you."



"When Earnie hits you, it's not like you see stars in the conventional sense, but you see Neptune, Jupiter, Pluto and stars you never even dreamed about."



Barely able to see and unable to breathe through his crushed nose, Terry exclaims "I'd donate my blood to Earnie. When Holmes goes down, all these busted up ribs mean nothin."



JOHN GIROWSKI 32, is an old friend of Shavers and has been boxing for 11 years. He knows the business and acts as the big brother to the sparring partners, making sure they all fight with different styles when they meet Earnie in the ring. "You never stop learning" says John, who is a lecturer in sports history at several colleges around the country.

"OOF!" A wicked right to the body sends Girowski through the ropes as Shavers struts away. "I could have hit him again," said Earnie, "but I never take advantage of the men who help me prepare for a fight."

many of them in actual competition, but most of his sparring partners were black. Besides the ones already mentioned, big Battling Jim Johnson — who fought a 10-round draw with Jack Johnson for the heavyweight title in Paris in 1913 — was Dempsey's sparring partner when the Manassau Mauler readied himself for his 18-second fight with Fred Fulton in 1918.

The championship lists of the lighter divisions have included many former sparring partners, too. Barney Ross was Jackie Fields' sparring partner in Detroit in the summer of 1929. Fields was then getting ready for Joe Dundee and Ross was a 19-year-old amateur planning to turn pro. Lou Ambers was Tony Canzoneri's sparmate when the latter was training for Kid Chocolate in 1931. Four years later, Tony met Lou in the ring with the vacant lightweight title on the line and beat him. "I learned more about Canzoneri's stuff in that one fight that I did in all our training camp sessions," Lou said later. "I was still the sparring partner in our first meeting, but it was a different story when we clashed again a little more than a year later." That was on September 3, 1936, when Ambers beat the fading Canzoneri over 15 rounds.

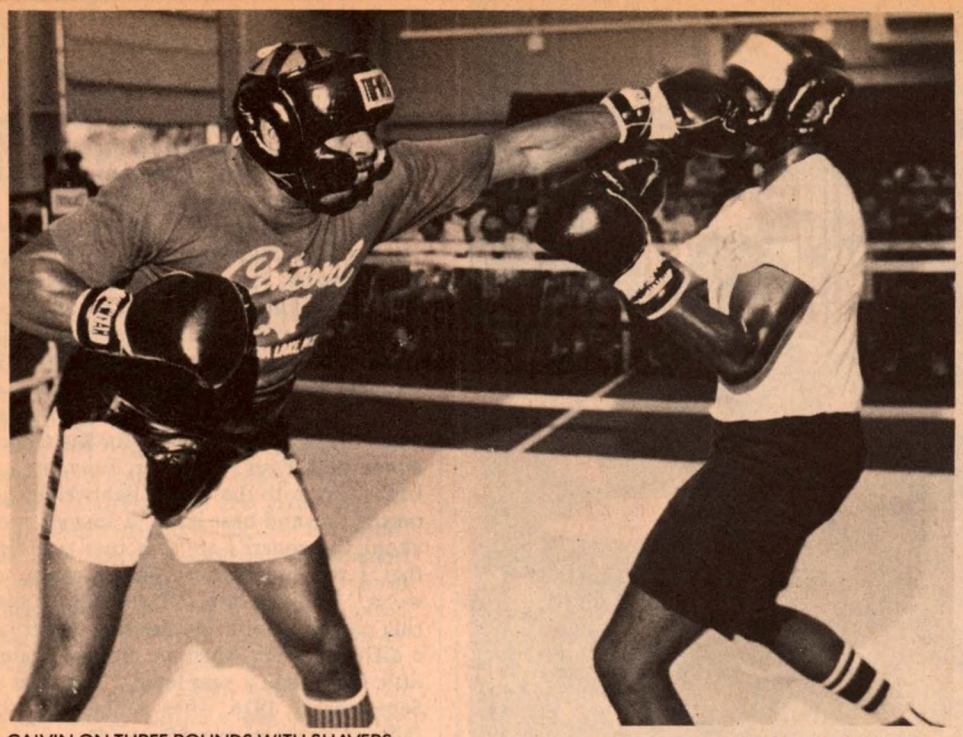
The old-time managers figured it was worth their while to let their charges spar with the established stars of the fight game. Many a young prospect willingly agreed to go in with a veteran just to get the experience, and got no pay. The tendency in recent years, however, is for up-and-coming fighters not to work as sparring partners. Some fight people claim that the "sparring partner mentality" can become part of a fighter, and effect his ego.

One young fighter whose ego was not dented was young Cassius Clay, who sparred with Willie Pastrano and Ingemar Johansson. Cassius, of course, was not really being used as a sparring partner; he was just "going against" those world champs in gym workouts, and almost made *them* look like the "sparring partners."

Ali has had a lot of sparring partners, but the one that's best remembered is, of course, Jimmy Ellis, who had split victories with his boxing in the amateurs. Ellis was a fast and adept boxer, but he lacked his fellow Louisvillean's style, speed, size, and "greatness." When Rubin (Hurricane) Carter floored Jimmy enroute to a unanimous decision on February 28, 1964, Ellis weighed only 145¾. He grew into a heavyweight within the next three years and was — for a brief period — Ali's successor as WBA champion.

Larry Holmes was a sparring partner for Ali, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Young, and Earnie Shavers. Now, Holmes is a millionaire a couple of times over.

Today's sparring partner-turned-contender is Earnie Shavers, who recently rose to the top of the heavyweight rankings, proving that "Yesterday's sparring partner is tomorrow's potential champion." ■

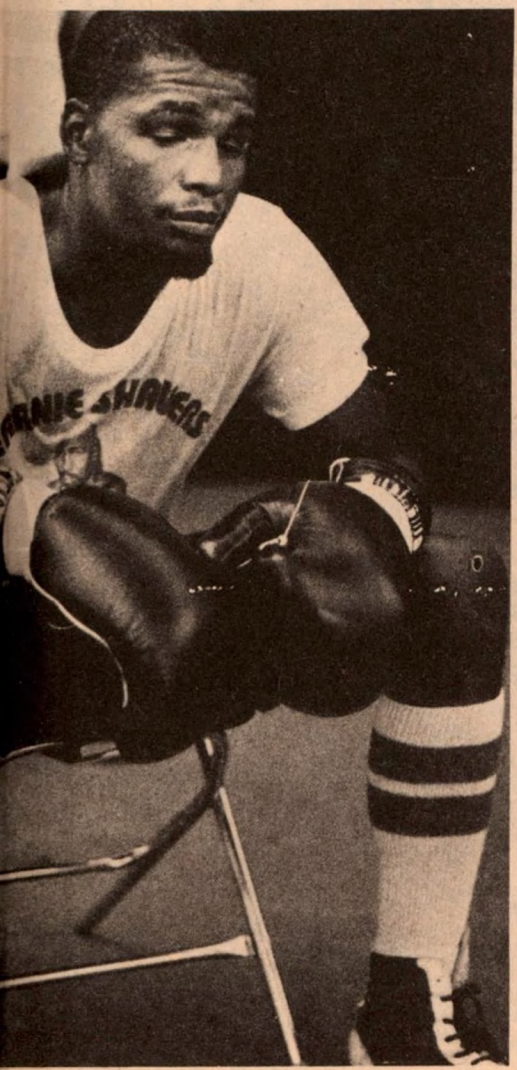


CALVIN ON THREE ROUNDS WITH SHAVERS:
▲ **Round One** "I never been hit like that. It's like I was hit by a truck."

Tired of being dropped by rib-crunching punches, Calvin wore a body protector one day. He should have worn it on his chin, instead. Earnie probably was annoyed at the misspelling of both his names on his shirt.

<Round Two "No, not like a truck. That guy hits like a bulldozer!"

vRound Three "Was that the bell? I can't believe it. I survived! I'm still alive!"



"Before I came here," explains a dazed Calvin, "nobody ever put me down in the ring. Now, all I think about is how to stay up." Calvin is definitely an up and coming heavyweight with heart!

Left to right: John, Eddie, Shavers, Terry and Calvin are all smiles after a 10-round session. Despite this show of amiability, Earnie doesn't spend any time with his sparring partners outside of the ring while in camp. He sleeps and eats in a separate house with Frank Luca in order to discipline himself and so as not to go "soft" on his sparring partners.

ADD ANOTHER NAME TO THE TOP OF THE WELTERWEIGHT CLASS— THOMAS HEARNS

YOU CAN CALL HIM THOMAS, OR YOU CAN CALL HIM "HIT MAN" BUT DON'T CALL HIM TOMMY

By PETER HELLER

Thomas Hearns is willing to bide his time. He's currently ranked among the top three or four welterweights in the world on all the lists that count, and by rights should be screaming for a deserved title shot. But that's not Tommy's — oops, Thomas. Call him *Thomas*. Never Tommy — that's not Thomas' style. Just turned 21, he's a patient young man. He figures time is on his side, and that before too long the public will demand that he get his chance. Right now his problem is getting top quality opponents who can challenge him, ones he can learn from.

Hearns is one of those rare fighters plagued by the dilemma of being too good. Not many want to fight him. The men he's lured into the ring — Clyde Gray, Harold Weston, Bruce Curry — have all been stopped by him. The list of those who want to bypass him grows day by day. Ask Sugar Ray Leonard why he chose a title shot while avoiding Hearns.

Hearns has fought 22 times. He has won 22 times, 21 times inside the distance (Alfonso Hayman being the man with the honor of lasting the full 10 rounds). At 6'1", Thomas towers over the welterweight division, and has little trouble making the 147 pound limit.

One of eight brothers and sisters, his story is a familiar one. No father at home. Inner-city upbringing. Began boxing at age 10 at a community center because he tagged along with friends who were boxing.

But there the stereotype ends and the unique individual takes over. In 1975 the 17-year-old Hearns moved to the Kronk Recreation Center in the Detroit ghetto. He met the man who was to become his amateur coach (and now professional manager) Emanuel Steward, a former National Golden Gloves champ himself (1963). It was a lucky break for Hearns. He met a man with compassion. A man who wasn't hungry for a buck, but who truly wanted to teach someone willing to learn. Hearns was.

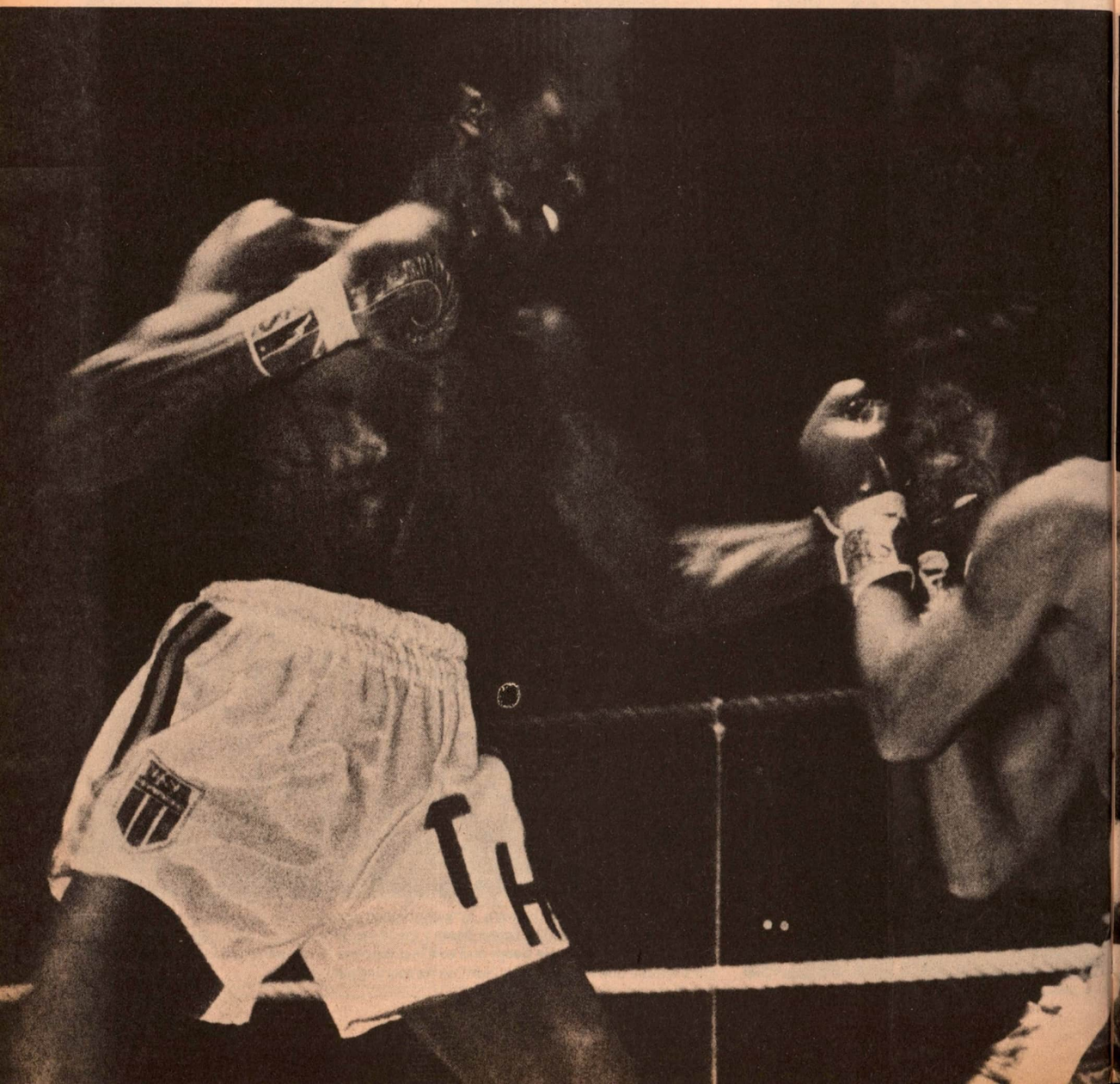
Steward recalls, "I put him in the Golden Gloves at age 16 as a novice, and entered him in the Open class. He scored a first round KO. Thomas doesn't know what the word fear is."

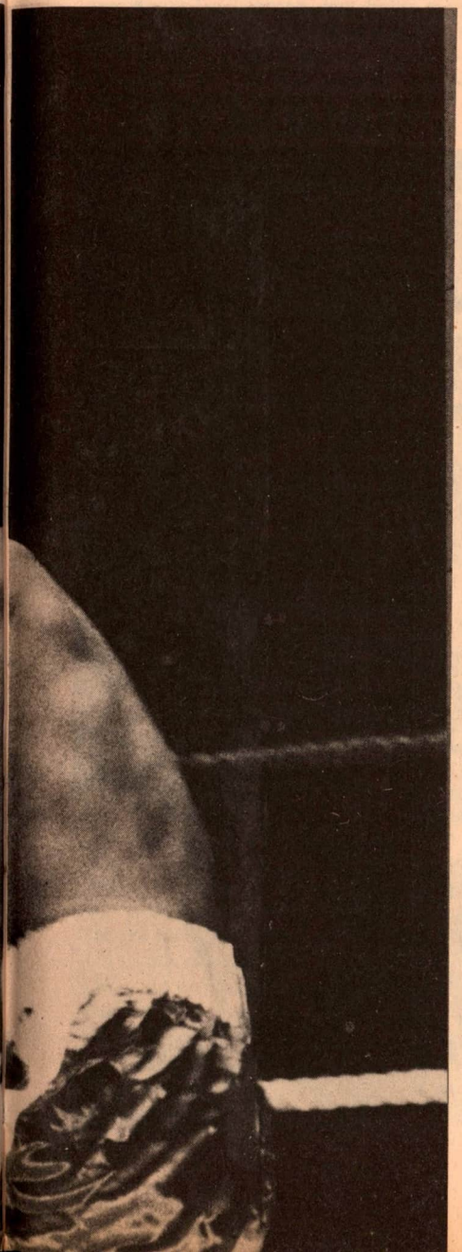
Hearns slammed his way through 163 amateur fights, compiling a 155-8 record. Strangely enough, only about a dozen of his victories were by KO. Skinny and still growing at the time, his KO power hadn't developed yet. He made it all the way to the finals of the 1976 National AAU tournament fighting with a broken nose. With his breathing badly impaired, he lost a decision in the championship bout to Howard Davis. Because of the injury, he and Steward decided it would be best if he did not enter the Olympic trials that year and so gave up a chance to go to Montreal.

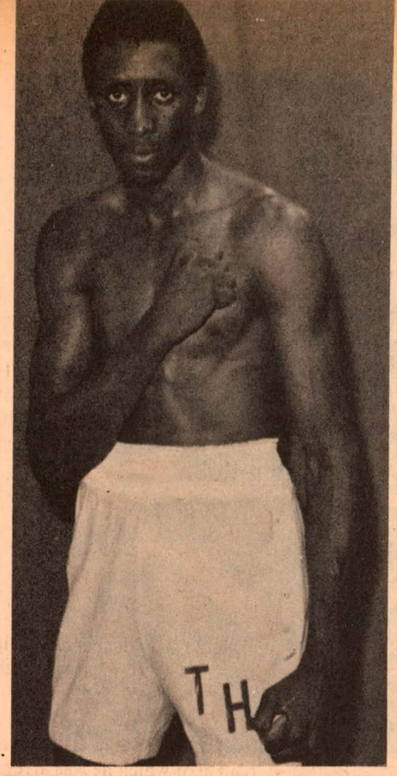
In 1977 he won the National AAU and National Golden Gloves championships (the only fighter to win both those titles in '77) then turned pro, scoring a two round KO over a Jerome Hill on November 25, 1977. After scoring 14 straight KO's, he met Canadian veteran Clyde Gray last January 13. In the tenth round, a still-strong Hearns (it was the first time he had to go past 4 rounds) sent Gray to the canvas with devastating punches. The fight ended at 2:03 of the final round, and Hearns had his first "big name" victory.

Last May, in a nationally televised bout, Hearns started strong against highly-rated Harold Weston, Jr., but in rounds 5 and 6 Weston came back. Hearns looked tired. However, due to an accidental thumbing, Weston lost vision in one eye and Hearns was a controversial TKO winner. Weston later underwent surgery for a detached retina. Steward says he was very disappointed the fight ended in such an unsatisfactory manner, and maintains it was a deliberate strategy to coast for several rounds, saying the plan was for Hearns to come on strong again in round eight, and stop Weston in the later rounds. But still, many feel the final result would have been just the opposite had not Weston been forced to retire after six.

One month later, in what was doubtless-







Peter Heller is the author of "In This Corner".

DETROIT: THE FIGHT TOWN

Although boxing in Detroit had fallen on hard times in recent years — before Thomas Hearns came onto the scene — Detroit had a rich boxing heritage, albeit sometimes checkered. Lightweight champ Sammy Mandell defeated Phil McGraw at the University of Detroit Stadium in 1927. That same year Olympia Stadium, later to become known as the home of the fabled Detroit Red Wings in the days of Howe, Linsey, and Abel, opened its doors. On Oct. 26 Tom Heeney beat Johnny Risko, earning a title shot at Gene Tunney. Billy Petrolle, Jimmy McLarnin, and Ray Miller all fought there over the next decade.

Two of boxing's greatest fighters, Joe Louis and Sugar Ray Robinson, were from Detroit, fought early fights there, and each made successful title defenses there: Louis against Abe Simon and Robinson against Chuck Taylor. But the biggest drawing card in Olympia's history was a kid from the streets of New York — Jake LaMotta. It was there that the Bronx Bull defeated Sugar Ray Robinson, and successfully defended his title in a sensational battle against Laurent Dauthuille. And just down the road from Olympia, at Tiger Stadium, LaMotta TKO'd Marcel Cerdan to win the World Middleweight Championship in 1949.

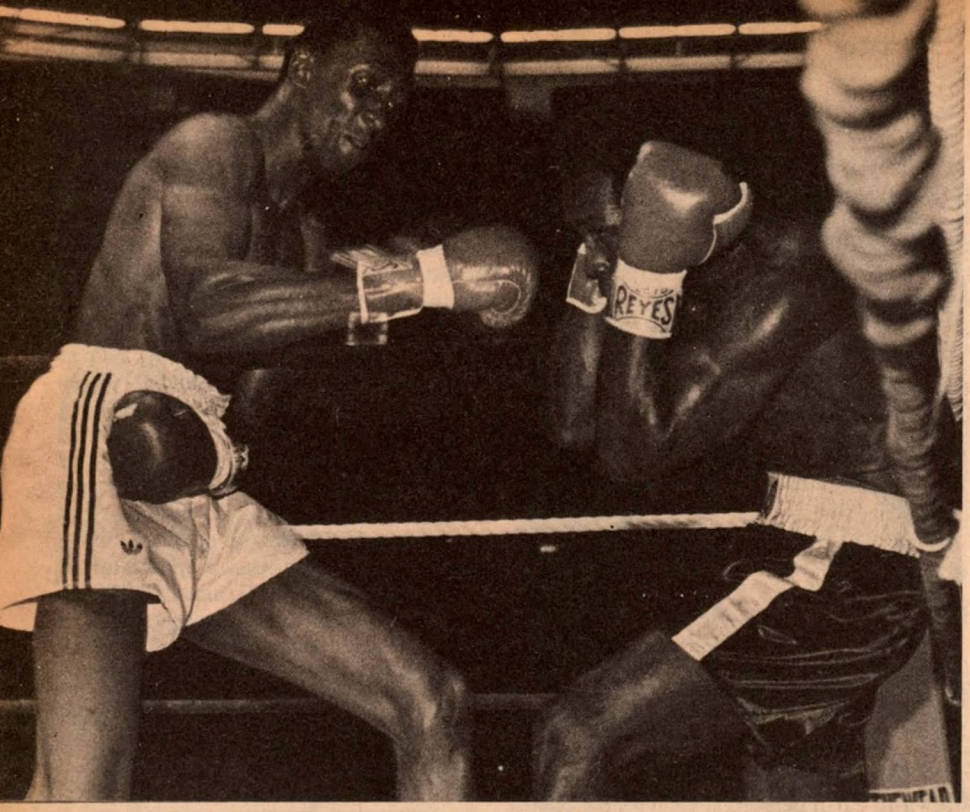
Other top fights held in Detroit include Louis vs. Pastor, Graziano vs. Janiro, Charles vs. Walcott, and, more recently, Joe Frazier vs. Bob Foster. And it was in Detroit that Nick Londos and Jim Norris formed Olympia Boxing, which later grew into the IBC until dissolved by order of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In recent years, boxing interest faded in Detroit, and top contenders such as Hedgemon Lewis, Len Hutchins, and Henry Hank had to go elsewhere to fight because of lack of hometown support.

But now Hearns has turned all that around, pulling in gates well in excess of $100,000 and crowds of 10-11-12,000 fans at Olympia. In the future, Hearns will do his hometown boxing at a different facility. The venerable Olympia will be vacated this winter after more than 50 years of service, and the new Joe Louis Arena will open its doors. Named after Detroit's favorite son, the new arena on the banks of the Detroit River will be an all-purpose facility, hosting Red Wing hockey, college basketball and other tournaments, top artists in concert, and, of course, boxing. The Joe Louis Arena has 61 penthouse suites, an executive lounge, and seats approximately 23,000 people for boxing.

And with an attraction like Hearns on hand, those 23,000 seats could very likely be filled before too long.

Hearns knocks out Rudy Barro with a left and right to head, Dec. 9, 1978.



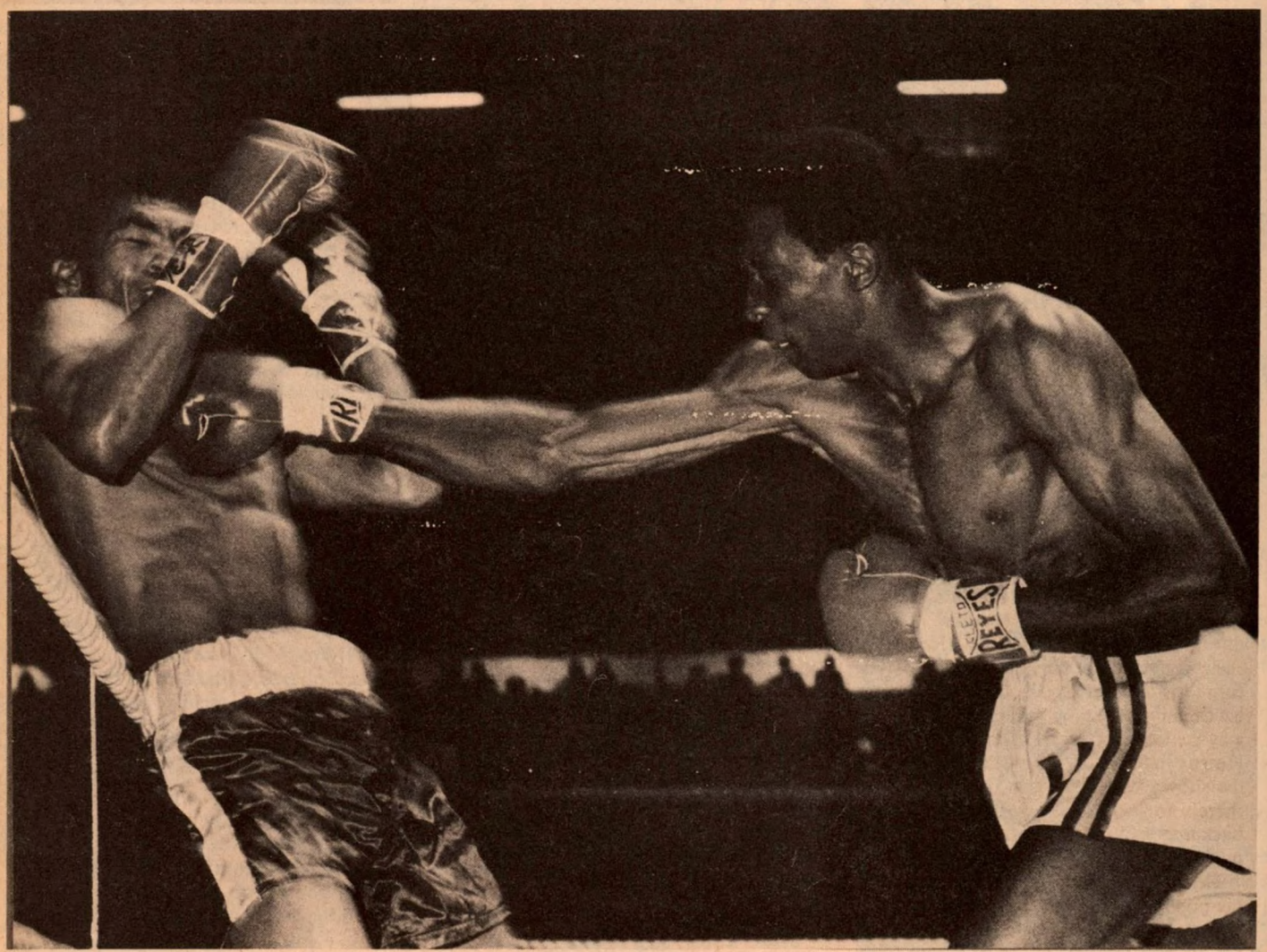
ly his best performance to date, Hearns demonstrated awesome punching power in knocking out Bruce Curry — the same Bruce Curry who had given Wilfred Benitez life and death the year before — in three rounds.

So where does all this leave Hearns? Right now, waiting. Assuming Duran decides to challenge Cuevas, and Benitez successfully defends against Sugar Ray Leonard on November 30, Benitez's manager, Jim Jacobs, says Hearns would be next in line for a shot at the WBC's 147-pound champion's title, sometime early in 1980. But if Duran decides to bypass Cuevas, Roberto would be next in line for a crack at the Leonard-Benitez winner. And Hearns

"The Hit Man" corners Eddie Marcelle in the second round, on his way to his 11th straight knockout, Aug. 3, 1978.

Hearns uses his tremendous leverage to crash a right to the jaw of Pedro Rojas, Oct. 26, 1978.

PHOTOS BY BILL KOZERSKI, JR.



would have to wait a little longer.

Here's how manager Steward assesses each of Hearns' potential major opponents:

—Benitez: "Benitez would be KO'd right away by Hearns."

—Duran: "Thomas is still a few months away from being ready for Duran, but I think Hearns would win a 15-round decision. Thomas is improving each day. Duran for the first time would be fighting a man over six feet tall, and a man with the ability to hurt him. And Thomas' mental attitude is as tough as Duran. That will take a lot of Roberto's cockiness and arrogance away."

—Cuevas: "Cuevas could be the toughest fight — or a very easy fight. It's unpredictable. But I think Cuevas would be KO'd by Hearns in the first round, because Pipino is too easy to hit, and no one who can be hit that easy can stand up to Thomas Hearns."

—Leonard: "Thomas is too physical, too strong for Leonard. Ray fights guys who are slow, who can't fight a damn, but he's getting the big buildup. Every opponent has been very well selected. Hearns has fought a better caliber of opponent."

How does Hearns himself feel? "I do feel in my mind I can fight, I'm ready for any of the guys in the welterweight division. None of those guys can do any more to me than I can do to them, and knowing that takes a lot of fear out of a person," says Hearns.

Hearns thinks that Leonard would be his toughest fight because "we basically have the same style, so it would just be a question of who outsmarted who, who would connect first." Hearns maintains that the promoters at Detroit's Olympia have tried to lure Leonard into the ring, but that Ray will have no part of Thomas. But it's part of Hearns' dignity that he will never derogate an opponent. When he watches Leonard fight he wishes him well. He feels Leonard deserves the attention he's getting because of his Olympic gold medal. Hearns is philosophical: "Right now, people are talking more about other fighters in the division," observes the Detroiter. "But in due time they'll have Thomas Hearns on their tongues. It doesn't bother me, because those other guys had to go through a lot to get where they are now." As for the way Leonard often showboats in the ring, Hearns just says, "If he can get away with his showboating, let him do it. With me, there's no way in the world I'm going to sit back and let a guy do nothin' like that with me."

Hearns' purses have escalated along with his popularity. Starting at about $500 two years ago, Hearns earned about $80,000 for his nine minutes in the ring with Curry last June, which drew a $130,000 gate at Olympia. All his boxing money is being handled responsibly and conservatively, invested or banked. What he lives off are his earnings from commercials, endorsements, and public appearances in the Detroit area. He bought his mother and family a new home, his largest extravagance. He allows himself a leased Cadillac, and otherwise leads a relatively Spartan existence. He dresses in stylish, conservative three-piece business suits. His clean cut, trouble-free image largely reflects the lifestyle of his mentor Steward.

In the ring his nickname is "Hit Man". But on the outside, "I'm just trying to be an everyday person like everyone else," says Hearns. "I'm not the trouble type. I don't like being with a crowd of people. I'd rather be by myself or with my family than go out and get into a lot of trouble, because I don't feel that you get anything out of it — nothing *but* trouble, which I don't need. I have three brothers and four sisters. They all look up to me, so I've had to set a good example for them."

Of his special relationship with Steward, a frontrunner for an Olympic coaching job in 1980, Thomas says, "He's a great guy, a down-to-earth person. If I have a problem, I can rely on Emanuel to help me out. He's almost like a father to me."

"If I never got a shot at the title," muses Hearns, "I'd be very disappointed that the guy at the top, whoever it was, didn't want it to be that way, to give me a chance to prove myself to him and the public. But, then again, I'd look at it as, like, I did damn well in my career even if I didn't get a chance at the title." ■

THOMAS HEARNS' RING RECORD

1977

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Nov. 25	Jerome Hill	Detroit	KO 2
Dec. 7	Jerry Strickland	Mt. Clemens	KO 3
Dec. 16	Willie Wren	Detroit	KO 3

1978

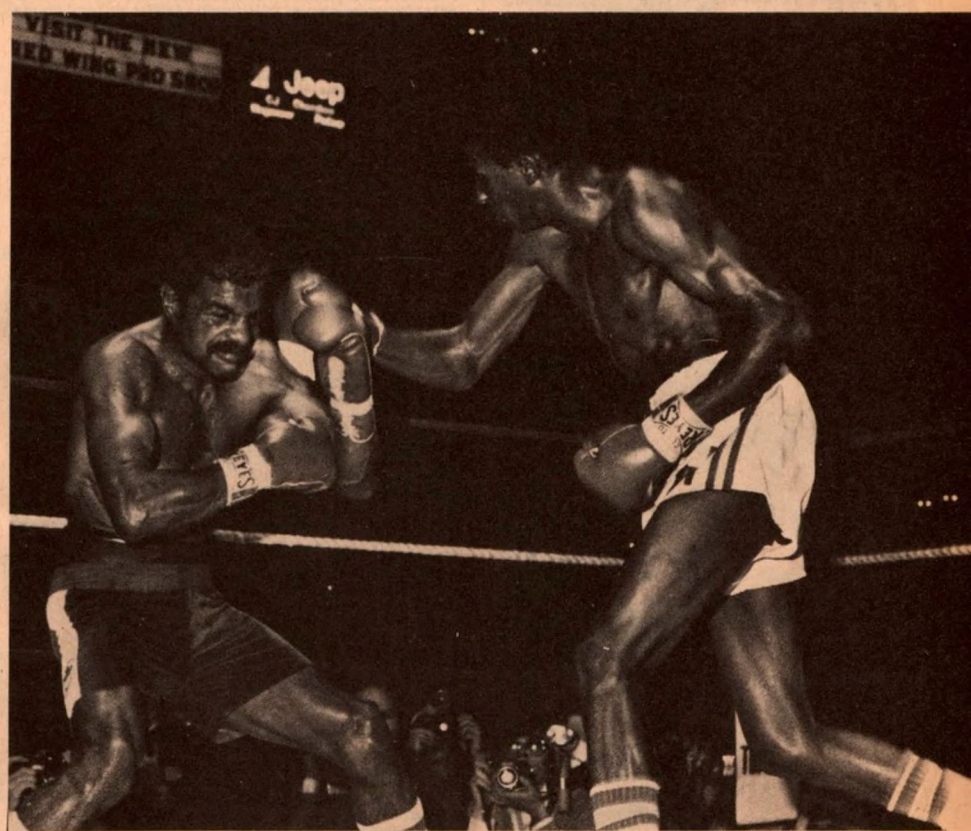
DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 29	Anthony House	Detroit	KO 2
Feb. 10	Robert Adams	Detroit	KO 3
Feb. 17	Billy Goodwin	Detroit	KO 2
Mar. 17	Ray Fields	Detroit	KO 2
Mar. 31	Tyrone Phelps	Saginaw	KO 3
June 8	Jimmy Rothwell	Detroit	KO 1
July 20	Raul Aguirre	Detroit	KO 3
Aug. 3	Eddie Marcelle	Detroit	KO 2
Sept.7	Bruce Finch	Detroit	KO 3
Oct. 26	Pedro Rojas	Detroit	KO 1
Dec. 9	Rudy Barro	Detroit	KO 4

1979

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 13	Clyde Gray	Detroit	KO 10
Jan. 31	Sammy Ruckard	Detroit	KO 8
Mar. 3	Segundo Murillo	Detroit	KO 8
Apr. 3	Alfonso Hayman	Philadelphia	W 10
May 20	Harold Weston, Jr.	Las Vegas	KO 6
June 28	Bruce Curry	Detroit	KO 3
Aug. 23	Mao DeLaRosa	Detroit	KO 2
Sept. 22	Jose Figueroa	Los Angeles	KO 3

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S
22	22	0	0	21



Hearns launches a 10th-round barrage to stop his first big-name opponent, Clyde Gray, Jan 13, 1978.

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

▲ TUCSON — A capacity crowd jammed into Tucson's night club, After The Gold Rush, to watch home town favorite Nicky Perez beat willing, Regis Rodriguez into a third round technical knockout.

Perez, the North American super bantamweight champ, is only 19 years old, but shows class and maturity in the ring. The short, stocky Rodriguez didn't stand a chance against the long reach and fast style of Perez. Rodriguez, who hails from Lordsburg, New Mexico, claims to be bantamweight champ of Chihuahua, Mexico, and came into the fight with a 22-7 record. Rodriguez had already been to the canvas when referee Bobby Ferrara called a halt to proceedings at 2:56 of the third.

In the six-round semi-final, Ohio transplant Tyrone Rackley beat gutsy Martin "Kayo" Garibay, Douglas, Arizona. Rackley is very popular with the fans and showed speed and a quick punch as he pummeled the Douglas fighter from one side of the ring to the other. Frequently, Rackley would drop his left, with Garibay connecting with an overhand right. Rackley, who came into the fight weighing 146¾ pounds, boosted his record to a creditable 11-0.

Veteran fighter Johnny Mesa, Tucson, weighing 116, scored a knockout in the second round over inexperienced Art Vasquez, Douglas, Arizona. Johnny has been around, and didn't waste any time with the slender, 115-pound Vasquez.

A newcomer to the pro ranks, Tucsonian Marty Tineo, 141, put up a tough battle to win a unanimous decision over muscular Henry Lopez, Douglas. Lopez, also 141, and sporting a full beard, gave it all he had, but the slippery Tineo danced his way out of possible danger. It was a close fight, and a rematch should prove interesting.

ROBERT CARSON

CONNECTICUT

▲ HARTFORD — Civic Center — Wilbur Henderson and Donnie Adison fought their second draw in a row before another sell-out crowd of over 1,400 happy fight enthusiasts. For some reason, said Donnie Addison, "I can't buy a win here in Hartford." His feelings were shared by most of the crowd, who thought Addison had won by a fair margin. As this reporter saw it, Addison was the aggressor and landed most of the punches. Henderson, a stand-up, walk-in type of fighter, had his hands full trying to keep the swarming Addison from delivering stronger, heavier blows. Addison jabbed, hooked, and punched at every opportunity.

The official scoring was as follows: referee Sam Maltempo, 37-35, Henderson; judge Lou Bogash, 38-36, Addison; judge Duke Lawson, 37-37, a draw. Henderson's record is now 4-0-2; Addison's is 8-3-2. The men are light heavyweights.

Danna McCarthy, 173, Bristol, Conn., demolished Jose Diaz, 168, Hartford, in 1:22 of the first round. Dicky Embelton, 202, Thomaston, kayoed "Irish Tom Murphy, 187, Albany, in 1:09 of the fourth. Marcus Starks, 137, outpointed Mike Knox, 136, four. Marlon Starling knocked out Tim Lavalle in 1:04 of the third round. Papo Figueroa, 143, Hartford, TKO'd Richie Casale, 142, Southington, in the first. Rand Davio, 157, Springfield, Mass., outscored Angel Santiago, 152, Springfield, Mass.

▲ HARTFORD — Civic Center — Promoter Vito Tallarita pitted light heavyweight Jim McNalley against veteran Eddie Phillipps of Stamford, Conn. McNalley outclassed Phillipps over eight.

Heavyweight Dick Embelton, Thomaston, seemed to have won a lop-sided decision over Johnny Blaine of New Haven. I say "seemed to" because, at first, the ring announcer gave Blaine as the official winner. The crowd then started booing and throwing bottles, paper cups, and other debris into the ring. This went on for a full 20 minutes before Sal Giacobe, a state official, found an error in the tallying sheet and declared the bout a draw. That, too, was unfair, as Embelton had won the fight hands down.

Steve Snow, Springfield, Mass., and Hector Ortiz, Hartford, drew. This was a rubber match and when the leather had stopped flying, the question remained unanswered: Who is the better man?

Papo Figueroa, Hartford, outscored Angel Ortiz, Springfield, welterweights. Miguel Sanchez, the Bridgeport dandy who is handled by Georgie Russo, made his pro debut a rousing success as he scored a clean kayo over Charley Newell, Somers, Conn., in 1:22 of the first round. Milton Torres, 125, Holyoke, outpointed Jose Gonzales, Lowell, four. Kenny Schmidt, Hamden, notched his sixth consecutive pro victory by beating Jose Verdago, Springfield, four. Randy Davio, 158, Springfield, outscored Tommy Byrd, 156, Springfield.

▲ HARTFORD — Civic Center — Wilbur Henderson, 164, kayoed Ali Muhammad, Newark, in the seventh round. Ali, an exciting fighter, looked sharp in the early rounds, but, towards the end, it was all Henderson. Wilbur began crowding his smaller opponent and connected with some brutal left hooks to the side of the head that eventually took Ali apart. In the seventh, a flurry of devastating combinations floored Ali for an eight-count, and then a flashy right cross-left hook combo put him down for keeps.

The war between Hector Ortiz and Steve Snow was finally settled, with Snow winning a unanimous seven-round — that's right, seven-round, the first such bout ever scheduled — decision.

Dick Embelton, the bruising 205-pound puncher known as the Tomaston Terror, scored his second straight kayo when he used a powerful head and body attack on hapless Baha Muhammad, 229. A solid short right to the chin put Baha down and out in 1:53 of the first round.

Randy Davio ran into a terrific haymaker unloaded by Earl McNeil, 161, and was counted out by referee Pinky Morris 10 seconds later. Marcus Jackson, Hartford, won a close four-round decision over Sonny Assani, Nagatuck. Papo Figueroa, 145, Hartford, and Wilfrado Franco, also 145, New Haven, drew. Marlon Starling, 143, Hartford, won a unanimous decision over Herbert Muhammad, 146, Neward, N.J. Marcus Starks, 135, Hartford, outscored Mike Knox, 138, Albany, four.

BILLY KOWALCZYK

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

▲ HONOLULU, OAHU — Blaisdell Center — Rolando Navarrete, 129, of the Philippines, made his most impressive showing since his arrival in Honolulu when he scored a seventh-round TKO over Miguel Meza, 129½, Mexico.

Meza was still on his feet when referee Abe Pacheco stopped the fight at 0:44 of the round, but the Mexican toughie had taken a terrific beating and was in no condition to continue. There were no complaints from Meza or his handlers about the stoppage.

After the contest, Meza said, "That was my last fight."

It was a slugfest from start to finish, with Navarrete dishing out more than his opponent. He put Meza down in the first — the only knockdown in the fight — and, from then on, simply dominated. Meza, however, just refused to quit and landed his share of blows. His punches, however, didn't faze the Filipino battler. Navarrete is one tough customer. He's now 32-5-3, with 20 knockouts.

Flash Jagdon, 113½, Navarrete's stablemate, won a unanimous decision over Juan Garcia, Mexicali, 111, 10.

Danman (Hurricane) Lacy, 183½, Dallas, TKO'd Tom Westbrook, 203, Waianae, at 2:36 of the sixth round. Cesar Zulueta, 116¼, Philippines, TKO'd Noel Montano, 118½, Mexico at 1:17 of the third. Bernie D'Zurella, 116¼, Honolulu, TKO'd Leo Arrington, 168½, Honolulu, five.

Kuwashi Enterprises promoted the card. Paid attendance — 4,268.

▲ HONOLULU, OAHU — Blaisdell Center — Nene Jun, 126¼, used a body attack to win a unanimous decision over Abdul Bey, Philippines, 125, Chicago, 10. Referee Manny Tolentino scored it 49-45, judge Ed Higa had it 47-46, and judge Louis Race saw it 46-45. Bey had been heavily favored. Jun is the Filipino featherweight champion.

In a companion tenner, Melvin Johnson, 121¾, Clovis, New Mexico, won a unanimous decision over Rudy Patalinghug, 119¾, Cebu. Johnson didn't lose a round in scoring what was considered a mild upset.

Noli Galicha, 148¾, Philippines, TKO'd Terry Welch, 146¾, Panama, at 2:59 of the first round. Ronald Strode, 134¾, Honolulu, outpointed Ful Sumagaysay, 134½, Honolulu, six. Fred Baclaan, 130¼, Honolulu, outscored Wyatt Coleman, 133¼, Honolulu, four.

TED YAMACHIKA

INDIANA

▲ INDIANAPOLIS — Market Square Arena — The "War Machine," former WBC light heavyweight champion Marvin Johnson, 175, Indianapolis, was put into gear against durable rock-chinned veteran Carlos Marks, 170, Trinidad. "Marvelous" Marvin came away with a unanimous decision winning all 10 rounds. The shutout was scored 100-91, 100-87, and a questionable score of 100-76.

This was Johnsons's first ring appearance since losing his title to Matthew Saad Muhammad (Matthew Franklin) in the same ring on April 22. Johnson had suffered two major disappointments recently. One occurred when Victor Galindez backed out of his WBA title bout with Johnson. The other came with the unexpected knockout of Mike Rossman, which cancelled Johnson's proposed match with Rossman for the vacant WBA crown. Still, the Indianapolis warrior fought with grim determination.

Johnson must still be wondering what invisible force held up his journeyman foe from the tropical island. At the opening bell the southpaw ex-champion came out "winging" as usual, landing a variety of shots to his opponent's head and body. Marvin is one of those scrappers who don't believe in using the first couple of rounds as a "feeling out" period. He immediately gets down to the job at hand.

After the first two rounds, with Marks taking some of his best shots and discovering that Carlos' looping punches hurt, but were not of the knockout variety, Johnson paced himself to go the full route if necessary.

Each of the ten rounds was similar, with plenty of action and Marks on the receiving end of most of the blows. The former WBC light heavyweight king repeatedly landed solid left hooks, uppercuts and straight left leads to his tough opponent's head. The Trinidad native suffered a cut lower lip in the fifth round, but unbelievably, never seemed to be in trouble during the fight. Several times after Johnson landed a bomb, Carlos would motion for Marvin to come in again. Often Marks would just shake his head in jest.

Marks' gutsy performance gained respect from the crowd of 3,700 who paid $34,000 to witness the show, promoted by Fred Berns. They were amazed by the man's ability to take a punch.

Johnson had a good workout after being out of action for five months. Outside the ring, Marvin seems to be an easygoing young man, but when he laces on the gloves it's time to go to war.

Johnson told the cheering crowd, "I promise you that I will bring the world title back to Indianapolis."

In the first of two other ten rounders "Slammin' " Sammy NeSmith, 161, Indianapolis (28-4 25 kayoes) won a unanimous ten round decision over Chris Lange, 170, St. Augustine, Florida. The scores were: 100-90, 100-92, and 100-90.

Lange's nose began bleeding in the first round and gushed blood throughout the contest. This fight had many dull moments, with neither fighter showing much offense. Lange's purpose seemed to be to survive the ten rounds against the hard-hitting Hoosier. NeSmith never seemed to get into the flow of the fight.

The final ten rounder saw Gary "Ice Man" Guiden, 159, Muncie, Indiana (28-4 24 kayoes) lose a split decision to Jerome Jackson, 159, Philadelphia.

Two votes went for Jackson (97-95 and 99-94) and the third was cast for Guiden 98-96.

Jackson's running and circling tactics kept Guiden off balance for most of the fight. The Philadelphian showed some quick hands and feet, but little power. Jerome scored well with a sharp left jab while Guiden never seemed to get untracked to unload his lethal blows. Neither fighter was hurt during the contest.

In the prelims, lead fisted Danny Myers, 145½, Muncie, Indiana (15-1 14 kayoes), dropped Joe Suguro, 141, San Antonio, Texas, like a bad habit at 2:35 of the second round in a scheduled six-rounder. A picture-perfect left hook did the deed.

In his pro debut, Ball State University student Rodney Cummings, 161, Anderson, Indiana, weathered a second round knockdown to TKO Floyd "Cyclone" Saunders, 168, Seymour, Indiana, at 2:11 of the fourth and final round.

In his initial pro fight, Kelvin Lampkins, 136, Muncie, Indiana, decisioned Eric Tribeau, 136, Louisville, in four.

Marion "Tiger" Thomas, 142, Indianapolis, floored Phil Bowen, 140, Cincinnati, twice in the fourth round; then finished him off at 2:57 of round five.

Kelse McClure, administrative officer of the Indiana Athletic Commission, Suffered a fatal heart attack at ringside before the boxing program. McClure was 52.

▲ EVANSVILLE — Coliseum — Promoter Fred Berns, under the corporate entity of F & F Berns, Inc., appears to have uncovered a good marketplace for professional boxing in extreme south-western Indiana. This Ohio River city, with an area population of nearly 250,000, was offered an opportunity to see the "punch-for-pay" boys in the flesh for the first time in 31 years.

Berns, one of the nation's most successful local promoters, was hoping that 1,000 paid patrons would show up at the Coliseum in Evansville, but the announced attendance of 1,465 made Berns proclaim "This is the best first night fight crowd I've seen." Ticket prices were $10, $7, and $5 for the relatively low budget program of five bouts and one exhibition match.

Two local lads got a payday before their hometown people for the first time in their professional careers: In the first of two eight-round co-main events, George Madison, 161½, Evansville, knocked out Sammy Jackson, 168, Memphis, Tennessee, at 2:42 of the opening round. At the start, the excited Madison pinned Jackson against the ropes, unleashing a wild two-handed attack for thirty seconds with most of the punches either missing or being blocked. Madison backed off for a breather. Then, after a couple of minutes of caution and a few punches from his opponent, Madison started a flurry, knocking Jackson through the loose ropes, causing him to hit his head on the press table. Jackson was counted out as he tried to climb back through the ropes.

The other "Pocket City" contestant, Gary "Black Cobra" Thomas, 160, Evansville, disposed of Terry Jesmer, 165, Winnipeg, Canada, at :49 of the fourth. Thomas used the "Ali shuffle" several times while dancing away from his slow Canadian foe. There was actually very little effective scoring until Thomas came from nowhere with a good right cross, putting Jesmer on the canvas for the full ten-count from referee George DeFabis.

In the prelims, former multiple Louisville Golden Glove champion, Ken Heflin, 158, Louisville, TKO'd Ray Morgan, 161, Memphis, Tennessee, at 0:53 of the first round. The bout was halted because of a cut over Morgan's eye. This bout was destined to be short-lived, with both combatants throwing bombs from the beginning.

Lefty Bob Coolidge, 165, Minneapolis, TKO'd Floyd "Cyclone" Saunders, 168, Seymour, Indiana, (1-2), at 1:53 of the initial round. Both brawlers were cut, but Saunders' wound was severe enough to halt the action.

The "walkout fight," which nobody walked out on, was the best action fight of the evening. "Smokin' " Jimmy Robertson, 225, Muncie, Indiana (3-4-3), fought a six-round draw against Jerry Hunter, 222, Louisville. This was Hunter's first pro fight. It was an excellent heavyweight tussle, with both young men giving it their all, providing no dull moments. The scoring was: Judge Joe Sgro for Hunter, 59-57; Robertson got the 58-57 nod from Judge George DeFabis; and referee Gene Parker scored it 59-59. This reporter had Robertson winning 58-56.

The biggest name to show his fistic skills appeared in the exhibition, when classy Indiana middleweight champion Gary "Ice Man" Guiden, 164, Muncie (28-3 24 kayoes), dueled stable-mate Donnie "The Blue Knight" Garrett, 156, Muncie (4-2 4 kayoes), over four lively rounds.

It was announced that Guiden may defend his state championship against Madison in the near future. Promoter Berns plans on holding several boxing shows over the next few months in the 18,000-seat Market Square Arena in downtown Indianapolis.

GARY L. MERRITT

KANSAS

▲ WICHITA — Century II Convention Hall — Local welterweight sensation Pat Hallacy, youngest of the fighting Hallacy brothers, floored Bruce (The Mouse) Strauss four times en route to a unanimous 10-round decision.

Strauss, game but outclassed, hit the deck in the fifth, sixth, eighth, and tenth rounds as Hallacy scored his 22nd win in 23 fights. Strauss, of Omaha, is now 16-3.

The crowd of over 1,000 gave both fighters a standing ovation as referee Vern Miller, former Kansas Attorney General, raised Hallacy's hand in victory.

Heavyweight Ron Stander worked Strauss' corner and told this reporter that he expects to fight Scott Frank sometime in October.

In the other scheduled 10-rounder, Ned Hallacy, 180, scored a technical knockout when Al Bell, 178, of Chicago, failed to answer the bell for the fifth round.

Local heavyweight Lon Dale Freissen, 195, scored three knockdowns in the second round to score a TKO over Louis Brown, 205, of Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Middleweight Don Masterson of Muskogee, Oklahoma survived a first round knockdown to come back and post a TKO over Johnny McDuff of Dodge City. The bout was stopped in the third round with McDuff bleeding badly over the left eye.

Lightweight Marshall Villa, Jr., of Wichita, lost a four round decision to Terry Strapnell of Kansas City. Odell Willis, 162, of Wichita dropped Jesse Acosta, 158, of Kansas City three times in less than a minute to score a TKO in the first round.

Dick Meek promoted the card.

BOB SURBER

MICHIGAN

▲ DETROIT — Thomas Hearns, Detroit's sensational welterweight contender, won his 21st straight fight with a three round TKO over Mao De La Rosa of the Dominican Republic. A record crowd of 11,566 jammed the Cobo Arena to see their local hero. De La Rosa was unable to answer the bell for round three because his vision was seriously impaired. His handler's applied a substance called "nu-skin" above the fighter's right eye before the bout began. A combination of sweat, hot overhead lights and Hearns' punches caused this substance to quickly run into De La Rosa's eyes. However Hearns was in complete command the first two rounds and probably would have ended the bout early anyway.

Detroit middleweight Mickey Goodwin won a unanimous decision over Willie Warren, a 33-year-old veteran from Corpus Christi, Texas, in a ten round bout. The bout was close and as always, the crafty Warren gave a good account of himself. In a lightweight bout, Hilmer Kenty, of Detroit, scored an easy one round TKO over outclassed Bobby Flores of San Antonio. This was Kenty's 14th straight win since turning pro. Windsor welterweight Danny Jones upped his record to 4-0 with a six round unanimous decision over Tony Taylor of Muncie, Indiana. In a Jr. welterweight bout, Cecil Fernandez of Miami scored a 3 round TKO over Detroit's Earl Stringer. The opener had Jimmy Robertson of Muncie winning a four-round decision over tough Dave McCann of Detroit in a heavyweight bout.

Detroit middleweight Dwight Davison scored a three round KO over Keith Broom of Washington before a slim crowd at Olympia Stadium. After having Broom down for two eight counts in round two, Davison finished off his opponent at the 1:04 mark of round three with his very potent right cross. Dwight's pro record now stands at 21-0 and he is now ready for the bigger names in his division. In an eight-round middleweight bout Nathaniel Akbar of Detroit was the winner over Tough Tommy Sacco of Alliance, Ohio. The unanimous decision upped Akbar's record to 7-0. Detroit's Dujuan Johnson scored a five round knockout over Ron Pettigrew of Buffalo in a welterweight bout scheduled for eight rounds.

In other bouts, William "Caveman" Lee of Philadelphia knocked out Ernie Davis of Toledo in round two of a middleweight match and Zeke Zelichowski of Detroit won a four-round decision over Jose Gutierrez of Loraine, Ohio, in a light heavyweight bout.

JERRY McCARTHY

NEW YORK

▲ NEW YORK CITY—Felt Forum—Syria's Mustafa Hamsho, 162, returned to the Felt Forum with a knockout over Fermin Guzman, 160, Santo Domingo, in the seventh session of a scheduled 10-rounder.

After a slow first round, Hamsho opened up in round two and sent Guzman to the canvas. Fermin came out for the third determined he would not be hit again. He used every spoiling tactic in the book to nullify and avoid Hamsho's fists in that round and the fourth, winning both rounds by slight margins.

Mustafa seemed to be getting to Guzman in the fifth and sixth rounds. Fermin, however, still survived, and Hamsho's corner urged him to open up when he came out for the seventh. A blistering attack dropped Guzman to the canvas, where referee Herb Kronowitz counted him out at 1:36 of the round.

It was Mustafa's 19th knockout in 26 fights; he's 24-1-1. Guzman is 8-14-1; he's hardly a world beater.

In a co-feature, also scheduled for 10, Carmelo Negron, 125½, Brooklyn, scored his 10th knockout in an many fights when he stopped Livio Nolasco, 127, Santo Domingo, at 0:51 of the sixth. Negron started fast, and won all but the fifth, which I had even. Nolasco, however, gave him a good fight before referee Lew Eskin stopped it after the second knockdown in the sixth round. Nolasco is now 15-10-2.

Juan LaPorte, 128, Guyama, Puerto Rico, won a unanimous eight-round decision over Joe Rivera, 129¼, Paterson, New Jersey. A hard punch from Juan cut Rivera's left eye in the first round. Joe did a lot of weaving and refused to go down until the closing seconds of the last round. LaPorte's victory upped his record to 12-1 (eight kayoes), while Rivera slips to 8-4-2.

Three scheduled four-rounders: Martin Parham, 134, New York, a southpaw, the 1979 135-pound open New York Golden Gloves champ, made his pro debut by winning a unanimous decision over Tomas Diaz, 131½, Santo Domingo (0-2). Clyde Graves, 145, Irvington, N.J., another debutant, TKO'd Blas Deschamp, 145, Santo Domingo (0-2), at 2:08 of the third. Manny Sims, 144, Brooklyn, (1-1), won a unanimous decision over Angel Ortiz, 143, Springfield, Mass. (0-3).

The referees were Kronowitz, Eskin, and Luis Rivera. Harold Lederman and Sam Irum were the judges. Fred Abbatiello was the timekeeper.

Paid attendance—3,824. Gross—$31,083.40

HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

▲ SHIRLEY — William Floyd Arena — New promoters are scarce on Long Island. So are decent arenas to hold fights in. So, when some new chaps named Jack Barnett and Jerry Bauman announced a continuing series of boxing and wrestling cards were to begin at the William Floyd

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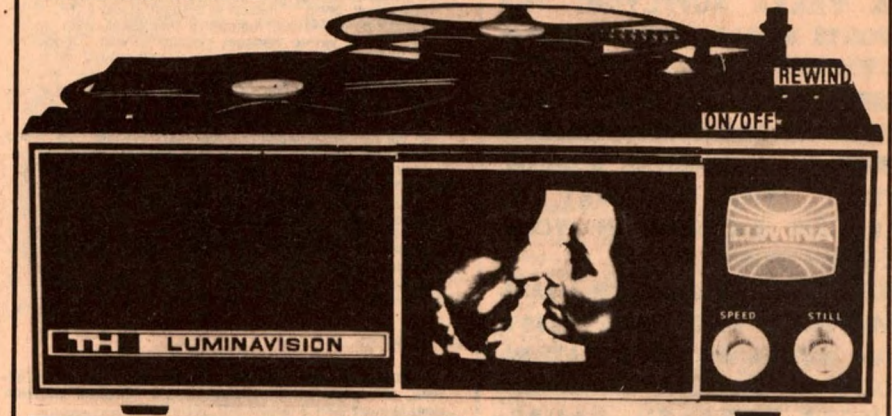

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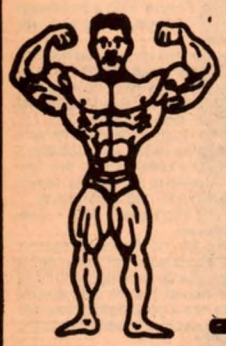

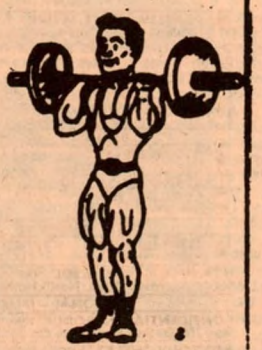

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Arena (a roller rink far out on the Island's East End), there were a lot of happy smiles. Over 1,000 of those smiles showed up for the opening card.

The smiles didn't last long. The food stands were plentiful, and the *Rocky* theme song was played over and over, but both distractions lost their charm as the crowd saw that the card was 90 minutes late in getting started — because there was no ring. The posts were up, but two canvas coverings were found to be too small before they found the right one. Then there was the business of the ring ropes. The ring was 24' and no ropes in the vicinity would fit it. It took time to send 15 miles for a set of ropes that were then found to be too big.

Those overly slack ropes turned every bout into a burlesque of sorts. Fighters would bounce into the loose mess and be swallowed up — or tumble out of the ring. One fighter hurt a leg and had to quit; another quit a winning battle because he couldn't accept the conditions. Add to this a list of fighters best described as "Philly Phainters" and you have the sort of thing that killed vaudeville — and maybe boxing. About 100 people walked out before the fights got started; they received their money back.

The fights wound down as follows: Light heavyweight contender Eddie (Flame) Gregory, 180, Brooklyn, scored his second kayo of Chuck Wilburn, 172½, Baltimore. Having finished him in three in January, 1977, Gregory just dust mopped Wilburn off in one this time. Eddie just let loose with a few hard jabs and Wilburn soon dropped out of a clinch and went to the canvas for the count. Few people saw the final blow, which was probably a short right to the jaw.

Then the announcer said, "Remember where you are, the William Floyd Sports Arena." Lord, the boos.

Norberto Sabater, 159½, Brooklyn, scored a clean kayo win over Robert Hart, 160½, Philadelphia. Having staged a heavy but sporadic body attack over the first two heats, Sabater reached back to the mule farm and decked Hart with a left hook to the jaw. Hart got up and another barrage laid him down for the count in 2:50 of the third.

The only other bout of quality was the opener. Alphonso Belford, 146½, Bellport, made his pro debut with a hot and mildly disputed four-round verdict over George Casher, 143, Hollis. The loose ropes tended to break up the action, but it was a hot slugfest. Some thought that Casher won because he solved the loose ropes obstacle better than Belford did.

Manny Sims, 147, New York, kayoed Jesse Rogers, 143, Hartford, three. Mike Garrahan, 243, East Northport, TKO'd Ben Johnson, 197½, Philadelphia, at 2:55 of the third. Tommy McNeece, 175, Oakdale, stopped Paul Brown, 162½, Philadelphia, two. Pat Brennan, 131, Plainedge, TKO'd Tommy Barr, 127, Philadelphia, at 1:58 of the second. Phil Capobianco, 177, Huntington, stopped James Anthony, 176½, Philadelphia, at 1:51 of the first. Four fights later, in the last bout of the night, Kid Samson, 176, Philadelphia, disposed of his opponent inside two minutes of the first round. The loser was introduced as James Anthony, 182, Philadelphia (see the Phil Capobianco fight). The weight and trunks were different, but it wouldn't surprise me if it *was* the same guy. Anthony was "knocked out" by a jab that wouldn't have knocked a smidgin' off a canary feather.

CHARLES D. BROWN

▲ WHITE PLAINS — Westchester County Center — There was no joy in Westchester as the mighty Greg Page pulled out — of a fight, that is. Page, the undefeated heavyweight prospect from Louisville, pulled out of a Momentum Enterprises-Butch Lewis show hours before his scheduled appearance, leaving the promoters without an ace on their card.

Despite the fact that they had to pay back over $1,600 in refunds, the promoters nevertheless entertained the announced crowd of 1,370 (many of whom undoubtedly came disguised as empty seats) with a good program, albeit a Page-less one.

In the main event, Philadelphia's Roger Stafford, 145, a 25-year-old former Marine, thoroughly outclassed Dale Staley, 151½. Staley, whose manager claimed he was "Dangerous when hurt," got a chance to prove it, and proved more hurt than dangerous. The only thing Staley did better than Stafford was grimace, looking like someone right out of method acting school as Stafford almost pitched a perfect game, getting a unanimous 10-round decision for his 11th victory in 12 starts.

In the semi-final, Marvin (Kid Harlem) Jenkins, 145, White Plains, New York, won a majority decision over Mike Ross, 141, Philadelphia, in an eight-rounder. Scott Luckachik, 217, Bridgeport, Connecticut, won a unanimous four-round decision over Djata Banks, 194, Philadelphia. Steve (Schoolboy) Small, 159, knocked out Hartford's Angel Santiago, 155, in one. Eric Winbush, 175, White Plains, decisioned Davey Ditmar, 175, White Plains, in six. Robert (Pee Wee) Rucker, 136, stopped Mike Thomas of Springfield, Mass., 135, in three. Billy Costello, Kingston, N.Y., 139, TKO'd Tony Gonzales, also of Springfield, 139, in three.

J.B. RANDOLPH

OHIO

▲ CINCINNATI — Riverfront Coliseum — Frankie Williams, 184, punched out a unanimous 10-round decision over favored Billy Sharkey, 187, New York.

Williams made an excellent showing before his hometown fans, as he jabbed, moved, and scored heavily in every round. Frankie landed his best combinations in the third, mixing good body punches into his attack. A good straight right dropped Sharkey for an eight-count, and Bill, a well conditioned fighter, displayed good ring generalship and defensive tactics by ducking and slipping as Williams tried for a kayo. Frankie also had Bill hurt in the fifth and sixth rounds, but the ringwise veteran was able to survive. Sharkey fought a game fight and landed good right hands, but Williams just continued his aggressive punching and showed no respect for the New Yorker's power.

In a second 10-round bout, Tom Fisher, 203, Dayton, won a unanimous decision over Ron Stander, 236, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Fisher outfought Stander all the way. Tom is now 27-4 and is a good attraction in Chicago, where he's fought most of his bouts.

A third 10-rounder, in which Mike Wyant was scheduled to fight Justice Ortiz, was cancelled when Wyant was shot to death in a parking lot in Hamilton, Ohio, two weeks before the program. Wyant, who served with the Marines in Viet Nam, won a Silver Star for rescuing three wounded buddies while badly wounded himself. Mike was one of the most exciting fighters ever to appear in Cincinnati. He will be missed by everyone.

Don Elbaum, who co-promoted the card with Ed Babst, replaced the Wyant-Ortiz bout with Larry Stanton-Jerry Strickland. Stanton, 138, New York, kayoed Strickland, 135, Cincinnati, in 2:35 of the second.

Charlie Peterson, 153, Muncie, Ind., decisioned Steve Woods, 158, Covington, Ky., six. In the program opener, Willie Brown, 150, decisioned Kenny Abbot, 150, four.

Only 1,700 fans were in attendance.

PAUL MARSHALL

OREGON

▲ PORTLAND — Jantzen Beach Arena — Willie "The Cannon" Shannon, 200, Portland, won his 16th professional bout without a setback by knocking out Charley Polite, 216, at 2:13 of the fourth round. Shannon decked Polite twice in the first round before finishing him with a solid right hand in the fourth.

Steve Moyer, 158, Portland, won an eight-round decision over Les Riggins, 163, Seattle. The win gives Moyer an 11-3-2 pro record.

Ken Arlt, 220, Beaverton, Ore., won a unanimous decision over John Kline, 190, St. Paul, Minn., in an eight-rounder. In the six-round opener, Joe Banks, Portland, TKO'd Tim Gockerill, 176, Seattle, in the third.

The attendance was about 1,200.

RUGGLES LARSON

PENNSYLVANIA

▲ PHILADELPHIA — Spectrum — Bennie Briscoe, the venerable old man of the middleweight division, proved that youth isn't everything by coasting to an easy 10-round decision over "Irish" Ted Mann at the Spectrum.

Mann, a popular redhead on a 13-bout winning streak, was given a good chance of out-manuevering Briscoe because of his advantage in speed and reflexes. It was not to be, as "Bad Bennie" handled Teddy like a sparring partner, winning the unanimous nod by scores of 47-42, 47-43, and 48-43.

The crowd gave both battlers a rousing welcome, but saved a standing ovation for Bennie as he made his way from the dressing room to the ring. It was one of the most emotion-charged matches in the city for some time.

Briscoe, 162, opened the fight by slamming a series of sledgehammer jabs smack into Mann's face. The blows opened a small nick over Ted's right eye and established, beyond a doubt, that the old geezer was not about to roll over and play dead.

It soon became obvious that Mann, 25, was slightly awestruck by the situation and would be lucky to last the distance.

"Maybe I had too much respect for him," admitted Mann later. "You know, it's like going in there against a legend. I'm glad he's not much younger or he might have smoked me out of there."

Each round was much the same. Briscoe chugged after Mann, scoring with his potent jab as Teddy scampered around the ring in retreat.

Mann, also 162, peppered Briscoe with light punches while on the move but never showed the power that brought him 13 knockouts in an overall record of 18-2.

"Teddy is young and was a little scared, but I'll tell you, he put on some defense out there," said Briscoe.

In the last round a clash of heads split Mann's left eye wide open. The flow of blood seemed to wake him up, and, for a short spell, he punched back at Briscoe with more grit than he had showed all night. A pair of stunning lefts from Briscoe stopped the rally just as the final bell rang.

Although he is only a shadow of the fearsome slugger he used to be, Briscoe has won his last three in a row and can still beat a lot of fighters. Mann, on the other hand, received quite an education in the bout and is young enough to benefit from it and come back.

Curtis Parker, heir apparent to Briscoe's local middleweight crown, scored a seventh round TKO over former WBC junior middleweight champ Elisha Obed in a scheduled ten.

The undefeated Parker wobbled Obed in the opening seconds of the fight and, from then on, it was only a matter of time. Obed looks like a washed-up fighter, and all he did was grab and hold in a desperate effort to last.

It degenerated into a mauling, clinch-filled mess. Parker tried his best to make a fight out of it, but was foiled at every turn by Obed's spoiling tactics.

A crushing right to the chin finally dropped Obed, 157, in the sixth but he regained his feet and survived until the bell.

The fired-up Parker, 160, made sure it didn't last too much longer. Another right dumped Elisha again early into the seventh, and, although he beat the count, it was almost over.

Referee Charles Sgrillo allowed Parker to tag Obed with a few more hard shots to the head and then stepped in and terminated the match at 1:30 of the round.

In the third ten of the triple bill, Jerry "The Bull" Martin stayed hot with a fourth-round TKO over reluctant Dominican Leo Rogers.

Martin, Philly's latest light heavyweight threat, punished Rogers with a two-handed body attack, causing Leo to twice spit out his mouth piece.

Rogers, 179, stayed on his stool when the bell for the fourth round sounded, giving Martin, 180, his fifth straight kayo in a 16-1 (11 kayoes) career.

"I thought it would be a tougher fight, but I don't mind taking an easy win," said Jerry.

"Rogers was an awkward southpaw. But then I don't care what a guy's like. I never worry about an opponent."

Undefeated North Philly lightweight "Choo Choo" Charlie Brown had to work hard to score a close six-round decision over Allentown's Angel Cruz in a fast-paced six.

A whistling left hook floored Cruz, 137, in the first, but he got up to give as good as he took for the remainder of the match. Brown, 139, needed a strong last round to edge it out.

Upper Darby banger Ken Carpenter, 125½, TKO'd game Pedro Lebron, 129, in an exciting, see-saw prelim scheduled for six. Lebron, Chester, Pa., got off to a fast start over the first two rounds, only to fall victim to Carpenter's harder punching

UNITED STATES RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Mike Weaver (Calif.)
1. John Tate (Tenn.)
2. Earnie Shavers (Ohio)
3. Leroy Jones (Colo.)
4. Scott LeDoux (Minn.)
5. Leon Spinks (Mo.)
6. Ossie Ocasio (P.R.)
7. Ron Lyle (Colo.)
8. Michael Dokes (Ohio)
9. Gerry Cooney (N.Y.)
10. Willie Shannon (Fla.)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Marvin Johnson (Ind.)
2. Yaqui Lopez (Calif.)
3. James Scott (N.J.)
4. Eddie Gregory (N.Y.)
5. Mike Rossman (N.J.)
6. Marvin Camel (Mont.)
7. Ramon Ranquello (N.J.)
8. Carlos DeLeon (P.R.)
9. Jerry Martin (Phila.)
10. Jesse Burnett (Calif.)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Marvin Hagler (Mass.)
1. Ronnie Harris (Ohio)
2. Mike Colbert (Ore.)
3. David Love (Calif.)
4. Ray Seales (Wash.)
5. Bennie Briscoe (Pa.)
6. Dwight Davison (Mich.)
7. Curtis Parker (Pa.)
8. Wilford Scypion (Texas)
9. Mike Baker (Wash., D.C.)
10. Rudy Robles (Calif.)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Rocky Mosley, Jr. (Nev.)
1. Tony Chiaverini (Mo.)
2. Nino Gonzalez (N. J.)
3. Johnny Sullivan (Ore.)
4. Jerry Cheatham (Ariz.)
5. Alvin Anderson (Md.)
6. Wilson Bell (Mich.)
7. Freddie Johnson (La.)
8. Roger Leonard (Md.)
9. Steve Delgado (Calif.)
10. Zeferino Gonzalez (Calif.)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Ray Leonard (Md.)
1. Thomas Hearns (Mich.)
2. Pete Ranzany (Calif.)
3. Angel Espada (P.R.)
4. Manuel Jimenez (P.R.)
5. Andy Price (Calif.)
6. Adolfo Viruet (Calif.)
7. Domingo Ayala (P.R.)
8. Santiago Valdez (Ind.)
9. Johnny Turner (N.Y.)
10. Rafael Rodriguez (Minn.)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Saoul Mamby (N.J.)
2. Esteban DeJesus (P.R.)
3. Sean O'Grady (Okla.)
4. Bruce Curry (Texas)
5. Jimmy Corkum (Mass.)
6. Larry Stanton (N.Y.)
7. Sammy Ayala (Texas)
8. Willie Rodriguez (Pa.)
9. Ruby Ortiz (N.Y.)
10. Tony Petronelli (Mass.)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Johnny Lira (Ill.)
2. Howard Davis Jr. (N.Y.)
3. Jorge Morales (P.R.)
4. Aaron Pryor (Ohio)
5. Hilmer Kenty (Mich.)
6. Edwin Viruet (P.R.)
7. Andy Ganigan (Hawaii)
8. Herman Montes (Calif.)
9. Reynaldo Zaragoza (Calif.)
10. Gonzello Montellano (Calif.)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Frankie Baltazar (Calif.)
2. Bobby Chacon (Calif.)
3. Greg Coverson (Mich.)
4. Robert Elizondo (Texas)
5. Arturo Leon (Ariz.)
6. Ernest Bing (N.J.)
7. Jerome Artis (Pa.)
8. Luke Ervin (N.J.)
9. Alex Alatore (Calif.)
10. Roy Hernandez (Texas)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Reuben Castillo (Calif.)
1. Mike Ayala (Texas)
2. Rocky Lockridge (N.J.)
3. Gerald Hayes (N.J.)
4. Abdul Bey (Hawaii)
5. Fel Clemente (Calif.)
6. Warren Matthews (La.)
7. Alberto Collazo (Pa.)
8. Carmelo Negron (N.Y.)
9. Jose Nieto (N.Y.)
10. Juan LaPorte (N.Y.)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Nicky Perez (Ariz.)
1. Juan (Kid) Meza (Calif.)
2. Javier Flores (Utah)
3. David Ramalho (Mass.)
4. William Berry (N.J.)
5. Earl Large (Ariz.)
6. Derrick Holmes (Va.)
7. Eddie Logan (Calif.)
8. Cookie Valencia (Utah)
9. Melvin Johnson (Calif.)
10. Jaime Garza (Texas)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Alberto Davila (Calif.)
2. Oscar Muniz (Calif.)
3. Julian Solis (P.R.)
4. Alberto Sandoval (Calif.)
5. Jeff Chandler (Pa.)
6. Andres Hernandez (P.R.)
7. Andres Torres (P.R.)
8. Artemio Jerome (Calif.)
9. Ignacio Osorio (Calif.)
10. David Capo (N.Y.)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion: Title Vacant
1. Joey Olivo (Calif.)
2. Orlando Maldonado (P.R.)
3. Willie Jensen (Nev.)
4. Mike Stuart (Calif.)
5. Fred Jackson (Tenn.)
6. John Carter (Ill.)
7. Adelaido Galindo (Texas)
8. Jose Ortiz (P.R.)
9. Mario Chavez (Calif.)
10. Arturo Tebaqui (Ariz.)

Larry Holmes (Pa.), WBC heavyweight champion; Matthew Saad Muhammad (Matthew Franklin) (Pa.), WBC light heavyweight champion; Wilfred Benitez (P.R.), world welterweight champion; Samuel Serrano (P.R.), world junior lightweight champion; Danny Lopez (Calif.), world featherweight champion; Wilfredo Gomez (P.R.) world junior featherweight champion.

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and be stopped at 1:00 of the sixth after a left hook put him down.

It was the third meeting between this pair and the series now stands at 1-1-1.

Two bouts went on after the main event and most of the crowd stayed around to watch local prospect Bruce Williams, 135, outpoint Luis Isaac, 134, over four, and bantams Angel Marreno and Jose Muniz battle to a spirited four-round draw.

Paid attendance — 7,104, best this year at the Spectrum.

NIGEL COLLINS

▲ SCRANTON — Willie "Fireball" Rodriguez, 138½, Allentown, won the vacant United States Boxing Association junior welterweight title with a 12-round unanimous decision over Art McKnight, 140, Mansfield, Ohio.

Rodriguez, 19-5, proved to be quicker and sharper than the Ohioan, and hurt McKnight on two occasions with straight rights. Rodriguez suffered a cut eye in the ninth round, but his corner kept it under control. Willie scored the only knockdown in the bout when he dropped McKnight with a right hand in the jaw with only 10 seconds remaining in the final round. The scoring was 11-1, 10-1-1, and 9-2-1. McKnight is now 16-5.

In the eight-round semi, Keyser Valley's popular "Dr. Jerry" Foley, 210, TKO'd Quinne Locklear, 195, Baltimore. Locklear failed to answer the bell for the seventh round.

Guy Gargan, 160, Upper Darby, Pa., won a six-round majority decision over Ralph Mifka, 164, South Scranton. Mifka is now 4-1.

Danny Long, 155, Boston, Mass., overcame a first round knockdown, used his sweeping left hook, and won a unanimous six-round duke over Danny Pate, also 155, Philadelphia.

Garland Wright, 147, Scranton, TKO'd Jose Green, Warminster, Pa. Green failed to answer the bell for the fourth and final round.

All-Star Boxing Club, promoter. Paul Reddy, matchmaker.

Paid attendance — 2,254. Gross — $14,694.

JIM LEO

VIRGINIA

▲ VIRGINIA BEACH — Dome — Bobby Acey, Norfolk welter, halted Johnny Barr in the main event. Acey, who has resigned from the Norfolk Police Dept., is now 14-1. He's a terrific puncher, but has no defense. Dick Pettigrew, his manager, is looking for a few top bouts for Bobby. Acey may also face Alfonso Hayman in a return battle. Hayman TKO'd Acey in their first meeting.

Buster Drayton, Philadelphia middleweight, knocked out Jesse Carter of Virginia Beach in 1:34 of the sixth round. LeRoy Boone, Virginia Beach, heavyweight, knocked out Charlie Baltimore, Philadelphia, in 2:58 of the first. Fred Brown, Norfolk middleweight, kayoed Bob Saxton, Philadelphia, in 1:32 of the second in a scheduled six-rounder. Charles Carey, Portsmouth middleweight, won a split decision over Ron Green, Philadelphia, four. Mike Brown, Philadelphia junior welterweight, won a unanimous decision over Van Tate, Virginia Beach, four.

Promoter Ed Owens said 1,214 fans paid $8,000, making his first boxing show since December, 1978 a financial success.

▲ RICHMOND — Alvin Anderson, 156, Baltimore, won a close but unanimous decision over Jerome L. (Billy) Goodman, 152, Philadelphia, 10. It was one of the best fights seen here in years.

John Jarvis, 154, Richmond, TKO'd Al Wilson, 159, Philadelphia, five. Bill Tuttle, 176, Bowie, Md., TKO'd Darryl Freeman, 182, Philadelphia, three. Charlie Tuttle, 163, Bowie, Md., TKO'd Malik Muhammad, 158, Philadelphia, two. William Lee, 174, Philadelphia, TKO'd Reggie Lee Inman, 171, Baltimore, in the first round of a scheduled four-rounder.

The attendance was 715 and the gross receipts were $4,050.00. Willie Richardson was the promoter.

▲ VIRGINIA BEACH — Dome — Veteran Alfonse Hayman, Philadelphia, scored an eight-round TKO over Bobby Acey, the former Norfolk policeman. This fight, a rematch, was given a lot of publicity, but there was no packed house. The prices were the highest I have ever heard of in Virginia: $20 Ringside, $10 General Admission.

Hayman just had too much experience. Acey has brittle hands. Then again, Bobby is getting older. He should hang up the gloves.

Ed Owens was the promoter.

JACKIE LEVINSON

WASHINGTON

▲ SPOKANE — Kennedy Pavilion — Lenny Hahn, 146, Spokane, stopped Andres Coregon, 140½, San Jose, Calif., at 1:49 of the second round in a scheduled 10-round main event. Nearly 4,000 fans watched the Spokane high school senior register his fifth professional win and his fifth consecutive knockout.

Pat Duncan, 204, Spirit Lake, Idaho, scored a unanimous eight-round decision over Ken Arlt, 219, Beaverton, Oregon, in the semi-final.

T.C. Bowman, 188, Spokane, and Gary Johnson, 198, Las Vegas, battled to a six-round draw. Hudson Jackson TKO'd Buddie McKay, 157½, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, in the fifth round of a scheduled six. Jackson fights out of Everett, Washington. In the four-round opener, Jimmy McCauley, 174½, Spokane, won a unanimous decision over fellow townsman Mack Bauers, 174. This was the best action fight of the evening and both scrappers received a standing ovation.

Al Rose was the promoter.

▲ SEDRO WOOLLEY — Pinkion Thomas, 210½, Seattle, stretched his pro record to 9-0 by knocking out outclassed Willie Stoglin, 212, Portland, Ore., in the second round of a scheduled 10-round main event.

Bobby Howard, 166, Seattle, won an interesting unanimous decision over Les Riggons, 165, Walla Walla, in the semi-final. Manny Gonzalez, 143½, Seattle, stretched his pro record to 5-0 by stopping Arturo Magallanes, 141, Los Angeles, in the second round. Tim Gockerill, 175, Seattle, halted Van Sahib, 185, Seattle, in the third round on the opening bout of the card.

The Chuck Miller promotion drew about 1,000 fans.

RUGGLES LARSON

CANADA

NOVA SCOTIA

▲ HALIFAX—Metro Center—In one of the most gruelling fights in this old Port City in a long, long, time, Chris Clarke of Halifax upset Clyde Gray of Three Mile Plains, Nova Scotia, fighting out of Toronto, Ontario, and a world ranked fighter, by stopping him in the 10th round. (Gray was unable to answer the bell for the eleventh). Gray not only lost the fight, but, along with it, the British Commonwealth title which he had held and defended on a number of occasions. It was a bitter fight from the first session on. The first three rounds were fairly even, and neither gave an inch to each other from the fourth through the eighth. Gray gave Clarke a boxing lesson, and, on at least five occasions, had Clarke on the way out. Due to the durability of Clarke and his ability to take punches, Gray could not finish him off. Gray was cut as early as the second round, but his corner men did a good job in stopping the bleeding until the sixth. From then on, he lost considerable blood and, I believe, strength due to the bleeding. Clarke seemed to finish the ninth round the stronger of the two and when the bell sounded for the 10th, he came out of his corner with fire in his eyes, went right to work on Gray's right eye, and, in a matter of seconds, ripped a gash at least an inch long just below the eye which bled profusely throughout the round. It was during the minute rest between the 10th and 11th round that Gray's handlers decided to call in the commission doctor, who wisely called a halt to proceedings to save Gray from further injury. The fight was promoted by Gussie MacLellan and Alva Brown. The old pros drew the largest crowd ever to witness a boxing match in the Maritimes. The crowd, over 11,000, paid in the vicinity of $130,000.

The day after the fight, Gray was hollering for a rematch, saying he might have underestimated Clarke, so don't be surprised if, when both boys heal after such a terrific battle, a rematch takes place. It would be a natural.

There were three scheduled eight rounders on the card. In the first, Marciano Bernardo of Patterson, N.J., at 159¾ stopped Donnie Johnson of Liverpool, N.S. at 2.16 of the first. The least said about this bout, the better. It would appear Johnson, 153, didn't come to fight.

In the second eight-rounder, between Marvin Jenkins of New

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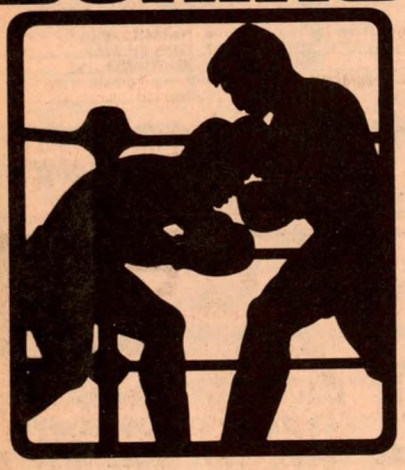

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York City and Allen Clarke of Halifax, N.S., brother of Chris, it would have appeared from where this writer was sitting that the best Clarke could have gotten was two rounds, but the judges saw it another way and awarded Clarke a split decision. I guess it depends where you sit or what you want to see. Jenkins weighed 148, Clarke 145.

The third scheduled eight-rounder brought together Eddie Smith, 180, of Charlotte, N.C., and Roddy MacDonald, 175, of New Waterford, now fighting out of Toronto. It was a typical MacDonald fight, waiting around for the chance to put over the crusher, which has been the case in the fights he has appeared in the Maritimes in over the past year. Although he did appear to have learned to box a bit more in his last couple of fights, in this particular one, Smith kept him away with a long left for the first four rounds, although MacDonald did lend a few stiff punches. In the fourth, he opened a cut under the eye of Smith. For some unknown reason, Smith came out in the fifth like a tiger, which was just what MacDonald was waiting for. In a matter of seconds, Smith was tamed to a pussy cat, and, at 2:36 of the round, the referee wisely stopped the bout to save Smith from further punishment.

GERRY SPEARS

ONTARIO

▲ **TORONTO** — Irrespective of any deal consummated between the Halifax promoters of the Clyde Gray-Chris Clarke welterweight bout and the management of Clyde Gray, the fact remains that Clarke, who halted Gray, the defending champion, in 10 rounds, can rightly lay claim to both the Commonwealth and Canadian welterweight titles. The Canadian Professional Boxing Federation and the Halifax Boxing Commission were, somewhere along the line, lacking in communication regarding championship bouts. It was reported, several days prior to the scheduled bout, that Gray would be defending only his Commonwealth title against Clarke with the bout listed as over 12 rounds. Existing regulations state all Commonwealth championship matches shall be over the 15 three-minute round duration to be officially recognized by the championship committee. The Halifax Commission is at fault for having granted the promoters a license for the show with the knowledge that the advertised championship bout did not conform with the official requirements laid down by the governing body. The request for a sanction for the proposed championship bout should have been rejected by the Canadian Professional Boxing Federation on the grounds that it did not conform with the Commonwealth Championship regulations. Championship rules and regulations are made to control such bouts and under no circumstances should any deviation be made to suit promoters or managers.

QUEBEC

▲ **MONTREAL — Forum — Nicky Furlano, Toronto, won the Canadian lightweight title with a majority decision over defending champion Gaetan Hart, Hull, in one of the best Canadian 135-pound championship fights in quite some time.**

There was very little holding or clinching during the entire bout, with both men using the ring well and boxing a full three minutes every round. It was the challenger who controlled the fight in the early going, scoring well with a fine body attack and stinging right-hand punches to the head of the defending champion. Midway through the fight, Hart, who knew that he was trailing and that Furlano showed no signs of tiring or letting up, changed his tactics. He went into round six and turned the tide of battle in his favor until the end of the ninth. Furlano then put it all together to get back on top in the final three rounds and carried off the decision. The champion was staggered by a hard right to the head in the last round, and by the time he had untracked himself, the fight was over. Two very tired fighters returned to their corners at the final bell.

The decision should have been a unanimous one for Furlano. Judge Bruno Beaudry had it 58-53, Furlano; judge Desmond Greene called it 58-52, also for Furlano; but judge Claude Terroux scored it 56-56, a draw. The decision was well received by the fans, who had witnessed a champion fighting very hard to retain his title while his challenger came up with that little extra in the closing rounds to give him his first official championship.

In the semi-final, Jean Claude LeClair, Montreal, making his first start since his disastrous meeting with Eddie Melo, stopped Bunny Avila, Montreal, in the fourth round.

Jimmy Gradson and Lancelot Innes, a pair of Montreal lightweights, battled to an eight-round draw with Gradson scoring the only knockdown of the fight in the third session.

Vinnie Curto, now fighting out of Montreal, clobbered a late sub named Dennis Waters, billed out of New York. The mismatch was halted in the second round.

Mario Cusson, Montreal, won a split decision over Quenton Blackman, Philadelphia, in the opening six-rounder.

Attendance — 5,662. It was reported that Furlano received $8,000 for his championship winning effort and that he will make his first title defense against Ralph Racine in the near future.

FRANK ALLNUTT

MEXICO

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Lorenzo "Pantera" Garcia, 108, got the duke over Tomas Cuellar, 108, eight. Bernardino Pena, 112, TKO'd Pablo Flores, 111, in round two. Gustavo Baleon, 134, TKO'd Marcelo Vega, in two. Raul Morales, 124, kayoed Antonio Alvarez, 126, in three.

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Jose Duarte, 147, TKO'd Jose Baquedano, 148, in seven. Trinidad Madrid, 145, TKO'd Arturo Guzman, 114, in three. Heriberto Saavedra, 112, outscored Arturo Gonzalez, 113, eight. Bonifacio Flores, 113, TKO'd Juan Flores, 110, in three. Mauricio Aceves, 134, TKO'd Juan Soto, 132, in three.

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Antonio Avelar, 113, decisioned Samuel Machorro, 113, ten. Veteran Arturo Zuniga, 159, TKO'd Armando "Aleman" Alatorre, 160, in three. Alfredo "Bulldog" Vasquez, 125, TKO'd Roberto Castillo, 125, in one. Luis Castillo, 111, TKO'd Miguel Reyes,110, in three. Pedro Aguilar, 117, TKO'd Ismael Rojas, 117, in one.

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Artemio "Diablo" Ramirez, 117, TKO'd Jose "Shibata" Ruiz, 117, in the tenth and last round. Felipe "Tigre" Fernandez, 117, TKO'd Serafin Pacheco, 118, in three. Juan "Coloradito" Robles, 134, TKO'd Jose Canchola, 135, in four. Al Cardenas, 115, kayoed Alvaro Jiminez, 118, in three. Antonio Gallegos, 115, beat Neo Lugo, 116, four.

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Gabriel Bernal, 112, TKO'd Armando "Palitos" Prez, 111, in one. Hector Cortes, 112, TKO'd Sergio "Gato" Marinez, 113, in six. Elias Equihua, 173, beat Bernardo Barron, 175, eight. Guillermo Cjapa, 111, TKO'd Hipolito Hernandez, 113, in four. Victor Urieta, 115, TKO'd Daniel Cuamani, 114, in three.

▲ **MEXICO CITY** — Pedro Flores, 112, outboxed Pedro Galaviz, 111, 10. Pablo Ramirez, 125, TKO'd Juan Jimenez, 124, in three. Miguel Angel Alvarez, 118, decisioned Jaime Rosas, 117, eight. Mario Ochoa, 114, outscored Martin Vidal, 114, six. Efrain Zepeda, 119, outpointed Hector Cortes, 120, four.

▲ **AGUASCALIENTES** — Jose Luis Valencia, 112, kayoed Roberto Martinez, 112, in seven.

BAJA CALIFORNIA

▲ **TIJUANA** — Jose Luis Ramirez, 134, TKO'd Ignacio "Negro" Campos, 135, in seven. Antonio Adame, 117, outscored Erasmo Mendez, 118, 10. Felipe Urqiza, 116, kayoed Francismo Martinez, 116, in two.

▲ **TIJUANA** — Marcos Geraldo, 160, TKO'd Lorenzo Benitez, in two, to retain his Mexican middleweight title.

CHIAPAS

▲ **TUXTLA GUTIERREZ** — Guillermo "Lobo" Morales, 125, knocked out Jacinto Fuentes, 125, of Panama, in eight. Abel Cordoba, 147, outpointed Adolfo Sanjeado, 145, in 10. Jimmy Fernandez, 112, outpointed Luis "Pajarito" Aguilar, 111, in 12, to win the flyweight championship title of Southern Mexico. Roman Acosta, 110, whipped Ricardo "Finito" Lopez, 111, 10. Victor Mendez outscored Aztequita de los Santos, 111, 10.

COAHUILA

▲ **PIEDRAS NEGRAS** — Bert Silva, 117, demolished Rigo Garcia, 118, in round two.

GUERRERO

▲ **ACAPULCO** — Elfego Lopez, 112, TKO'd Ruben "Gato" Mancilla, 111, in round seven. Joel Gatica, 112, won by a disqualification over Hugo Partida.

▲ **ACAPULCO** — Carmelo "Chino" Montes, 118, outscored Memo Ayala, 118, 10. Mario "Cubanito" Hernandez, 134, TKO'd Nacho Saucedo, 135, in three. Mario Juarez, 111 TKO'd Jesus Hernandez, 112, in three. Victor Valle, 110, kayoed Irineo "Cachorrito" Navarro, 111, in three.

▲ **ACAPULCO** — Fernando Montes, 192, and Polo Najera, 190, no contest in eight. Felip Farias, 119, halted Sergio Hernandez, 120, in two. Elpidio Infante, 112, outscored Juan de la Cruz,111, in six. Horacio Olguin, 117, lost to Venancio Rios, 116, in four.

▲ **ACAPULCO** — Obdulio "Copala" Zuastegui, 119, TKO'd Raul Arroyo, 119, in two. Hermelindo "Albanilito" Estrada, 116' kayoed Romulo Rocha, 117, in seven.

JALISCO

▲ **GUADALAJARA** — Alfonso "Buho" Rodriguez, 121, outscored Florentino Palomeque, 122, 10.

▲ **GUADALAJARA** — Roberto "Lobita" Ramirez, 112, halted Jose Gallardo, 112, in two. Juan Zarate, 112, stopped Humberto Cruz, 111 in two.

NUEVO LEON

▲ **MONTERREY** — Jose Luis Cisneros, 134, TKO'd Rafael Martinez, 135, in four.

▲ **MONTERREY** — Adan Chavarria, 147, TKO'd veteran Jose Luis Baltazar, 147, in eight rounds, to win Mexican welterweight title.

▲ **MONTERREY** — Enrique Muniz, 118, polished off Ramon "Changa" Guillen, 117, in four rounds. Leonardo Ramirez, 126, bombed out Porfirio Hernandez, 127, in the first.

SINALOA

▲ **CULLIACAN** — Jose Luis Tapia, 135, halted Juse Luis Soberanes, 136, in two. Agustin "Kimba" Palacios, 112, stopped Agustin Somberanes, 111, in two.

▲ **CULLIACAN** — Alberto "Costenito" Morales, 112, decisioned Miguel Angel "Baldo" Gonzales, 112, 12, to retain his North American flyweight title. Leonardo "Chino" Bermudez, 136, TKO'd Lupe Galindo, 134, in six.

▲ **LOS MOCHIS** — Jose "Bazookita" Zavala, 108, outpointed Salvador "Olivaritos" Avendano, 106, 10.

SONORA

▲ **GUAYMAS** — Francisco "Trompo" Marquez, 116, TKO'd "Topo Gigio" Vazquez, 115, in eight.

TAMAULIPAS

▲ **MATAMOROS** — Alfredo Pitalua, 135, of Colombia, outscored veteran Aurelio Muniz, 135, 10.

▲ **REYNOSA** — Ney Gordillo, 138, beat Camilo Ibarra, 134, 10.

▲ **REYNOSA** — Justo Garcia, 121, TKO'd Rafael "Tanquecito" Gonzalez, 122, in five.

VERACRUZ

▲ **COATZACOALCOS —** Babe San Martin (Mario Zozaya), 124, flattened Fidel Trejo, 125, in the fourth. Arturo Gonzalez, 111, TKO'd Ruben "Gato" Mancilla, 112, in seven.

YUCATAN

▲ **MERIDA —** Promising Juan Herrera, 111, outpointed Antonio "Chino" Benitez, 112, in 12, to win the Yucatan flyweight championship. Juan "Dinamita" Hernandez, 134, TKO'd Guadalupe "Lupe" Perez, 133, in seven to win the Yucatan light weight title. Eduardo "Lalo" Acosta, 112, TKO'd Marco Figueroa, 114, in eight. Diego Franco, 108, TKO'd Miguel Barrera, 106, in two. Luis Chi, 113, lost to Eloy Cardenas, 112, six.

EDUARDO AMER G.

PUERTO RICO

▲ SAN JUAN — Boxing went into the experimental stage of a TV studio (Channel 7), and the show produced before 400 fans proved quite successful.

It featured two island titles: The flyweight and bantamweight crowns of Puerto Rico.

In a scheduled 12 round flyweight title match, undefeated Orlando Maldonado surprised by taking out the more experienced Jose Ortiz in three heats.

Ortiz, whose chief claim to fame is a victory over former WBA flyweight titleholder Juan Jose Guzman, was no match for the undefeated Maldonado.

"I took him out with an uppercut to the body," said the former Montreal Olympic bronze medal winner, who had weakened his man with a body attack in the second.

This was Orlando's eleventh win and should put him in line for a world title match in the very near future.

In a co-feature event, Andres "Puppy" Hernandez won the vacant bantamweight title of Puerto Rico by scoring a sixth round kayo over Edwin Rivera.

Here again it was a body attack that turned the trick for Hernandez, who looked pretty sharp against his aggressive opponent.

Andres, who had a losing 13-round effort against former WBC bantam champ Carlos Zarate, would like a shot at Zarate's conqueror, Lupe Pintor.

"I'd like two or three more warm-up matches and then I'll challenge Pintor," said the unmarked winner.

MARIO RIVERA MARTINO

JAMAICA

▲ KINGSTON — Dragon Gymnasium — Boxing returned to Jamaica after a five-month absence with Son Baston as promoter.

The main event saw Charlton Bent, 154, return to action with a ten-round unanimous decision over Lionel "Tough Skin" Cameron. There were no knockdowns. Bent took the offensive early and consistently beat Cameron to the punch. Cameron tried to save it with a knockout and launched desperate rallies in rounds eight and nine. Bent, however, came back fresh in the last round and there were no questions about the decision.

In a scheduled ten-round supporting bout, 19-year-old Michael Dewar, 143, Kingston, put on his best performance when he TKO'd veteran Hubert Blake, 140, Montegobay, in 1:03 of the opening round. The sharp shooting youngster was too much for Blake, who went down twice and was rescued by referee Speedy Flynn when he could no longer defend himself. Dewar is now 7-0 and has established himself as *the* contender for the Jamaican lightweight title held by Errol West.

Lesly Mothersil won a split decision over Clyve Chamberlain, six. Denzal Surral, 133, won a split decision over Barington Dobson, 140.

The highlight of the evening was the brilliant boxing exhibition put on by former British Empire lightweight champion Bunny Grant.

The attendance was 1,100.

JACQUES DESCHAMPS, JR.

BRITISH ISLES

Now that the dust has settled on the World Boxing Council light heavyweight title fight between Matthew Saad Muhammad and John Conteh, British fans and boxing writers are wondering what John's answer is to the question "Where do we go from here?"

Some have already suggested that Conteh should retire. To those, he replies "Why should I? I thought I had put up a good show, and, but for a lapse of concentration, I would have won.

COMMONWEALTH RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
John L. Gardner (E)
1. Trevor Berbick (C)
2. Billy Aird (E)
3. Ngozika Ekwelum (N)
4. Tommy Kiely (E)
5. George Chuvalo (C)
6. Les Stevens (E)
7. Tony Moore (E)
8. Steve Aczel (A)
9. Denton Ruddock (E)
10. Terry Mintus (E)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Lotte Mwale (Z)
1. John Conteh (E)
2. Mustapha Wassaja (U)
3. Gary Summerhays (C)
4. Tony Mundine (A)
5. David Conteh (E)
6. Bunny Johnson (E)
7. Ernie Barr (B)
8. Greg McNamara (A)
9. Al Gattling (A)
10. Rab Affleck (S)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Ayub Kalule (U)
1. Alan Minter (E)
2. Tony Sibson (E)
3. Kevin Finnegan (E)
4. Fernand Marcotte (C)
5. Eddie Melo (C)
6. Frankie Lucas (St. Vin.)
7. Scorpion Ofosu (G)
8. Wally Carr (A)
9. Monty Betham (NZ)
10. Al Korovou (A)

LIGHT MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Kenny Bristol (Gu)
1. Maurice Hope (An)
2. Rocky Mattioli (A)
3. Jimmy Batten (E)
4. Elisha Obed (B)
5. Pat Thomas (St. Kitts)
6. Dave Proud (E)
7. Robbie Davies (E)
8. Neil Pattel (A)
9. Larry Paul (E)
10. Steve Hopkin (E)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Chris Clarke (C)
1. Dave Green (E)
2. Clyde Gray (C)
3. Hector Thompson (A)
4. Josef Nsubuga (U)
5. Kirkland Laing (E)
6. Sakarai Ve (Fi)
7. Eddie Marcelle (Tr)
8. Eddie Buttons (A)
9. Steve Dennis (A)
10. Henry Rhiney (E)

LIGHT WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Obisia Nwankpa (N)
1. Lennox Blackmoore (Gu)
2. Jeff Malcolm (A)
3. Lachie Austin (A)
4. Colin Powers (E)
5. Clinton McKenzie (E)
6. Des Morrison (E)
7. Frank Ropis (A)
8. Nick Furlano (C)
9. Andy Broome (A)
10. Sylvester Mittee (St. Lucia)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Hogan Jimoh (N)
1. Jim Watt (S)
2. Charlie Nash (I)
3. Claude Noel (T)
4. Ralph Racine (C)
5. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (U)
6. Gaetan Hart (C)
7. Ray Cattouse (E)
8. John Muwunga (U)
9. Johnny Claydon (E)
10. Dave McCabe (S)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Eddie Ndukwu (N)
1. Dave Needham (E)
2. Pat Cowdell (E)
3. Jimmy Flint (E)
4. Patrick Forde (Gu)
5. Les Pickett (W)
6. Brian Roberts (A)
7. Nick LoBianco (A)
8. Roger Henry (A)
9. Lindsay Roberts (A)
10. Jimmy Brown (E)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Johnny Owen (W)
1. Paul Ferreri (A)
2. Sulley Shittu (G)
3. Dave Smith (E)
4. Jim Bowen (A)
5. John Feeney (E)
6. Charlie Brown (A)
7. Patrick Burns (A)
8. Wayne Evans (E)
9. Dave Larmour (I)
10. Tony Kerr (S)

FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Charlie Magri (E)
2. Steve Bell (A)
3. Pedro Solo (A)
4. Ray Amoo (N)
5. Roger Richens (A)
6. Neil McLaughlin (I)
7. Garry Price (A)
8. Bryn Griffiths (W)
9. Junior Thompson (A)
10. Sharkey Hughes (A)

John Aba (Papua) is the junior lightweight champion. Contenders: Kazeem Armah (N), Mike Drayton (T), Glen Howard (A), David Kotey (G), Larry Velesini (A).

Legend: (An) Antigua; (A) Australia; (B) Bahamas; (C) Canada; (D) Dominica; (E) England; (Fi) Fiji Islands; (G) Ghana; (Gu) Guyana; (In) India; (I) Ireland; (J) Jamaica; (M) Malta; (N) Nigeria; (NZ) New Zealand; (S) Scotland; (To) Tonga; (T) Trinidad; (U) Uganda; (W) Wales; (Z) Zambia.

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"As it was, I lost, and am not grumbling about the decision. I was definitely ahead after 12 rounds, but Matthew won the next two and the knockdowns swung it his way.

"But if the World Boxing Council now decides that, in view of the illegal substance they used for Matthew's eyes, there should be a rematch, that suits me fine."

Now to finish 1979 on a high note, there will be an outstanding gathering of champions and former champions at London's Cafe Royal. This is to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the British Boxing Board of Control.

RON OLVER

CONTINENTAL EUROPE

BELGIUM

▲ **LA LOUVIERE** — Welterweights: Jean Simos TKO'd Fredo Roelands, three.

▲ **ALFORTSVILLE** — Junior middleweights: Georges Warusfel outscored Daniel Bouleux, eight.

▲ **BRUSSELS** — Heavyweights: Al Syben decisioned George Scott, ten rounds.

▲ **SINT TRUIDEN** — Junior welterweights: Andre Blanco outscored Kader Ben Mimoun, six.

▲ **GEEL** — Light heavyweights: Bernard Artone outscored Roland Bayens, six.

▲ **VILVOORDE** — Featherweights: Vincent Cipolla outscored Alain Marchand, six.

▲ **LIEGE** — Welterweights: Jean Marie Touati decisioned Mohammed Bouziani, six.

▲ **CHARLEROI** — Heavyweights: Mohamed Galloul TKO'd Robert Bosio, two.

▲ **KALKEN** — Light heavyweights: Roland Bayens decisioned Maurice Trepant, six.

▲ **CHARLEROI** — Featherweights: Jose Garcia TKO'd Patrick Goblet, six.

FRANCE

▲ **PARIS** — Middleweights: Jean Luc Lam outscored Gerard Breton over six rounds. Heavyweights: Sylvain Watbled knocked out Joe Maye, three.

▲ **ST. NAZAIRE** — Junior lightweights: Alain Lefol decisioned Roland Cazeaux, eight.

▲ **ARGENTEUIL** — Junior welters: Lucien Campo decisioned Antoine Maudia Muati, six.

▲ **DHUIZON** — Welterweights: Jean Pierre Moreau outscored Pierre Koenig, six.

▲ **ALFORTVILLE** — Junior middleweights: Georges Warusfel outscored Daniel Bouleux, eight.

▲ **DUNKIRK** — In a French welterweight eliminator, Fred Corauson knocked out Jacques van Mellaerts, three. Lightweights: Dan M'Putu decisioned Bingo Crooks, ten.

▲ **MONTE CARLO** — Middleweights: Argentinian Horace Cabral stopped South African Elijah (Tap Tap) Makhatini in one round. Middleweights: Gerard Nosely, France, halted Rubin Pando, Argentina, in three rounds.

▲ **SALON DE PROVENCE** — Junior middleweights: Eugene Douin outscored Maurice Renaud, six rounds.

▲ **NOUMEA** — Heavyweights: Vincent Kafoa knocked out Les Miller C Australial, four.

▲ **ST. MALO** — Junior welters: Yannick Blandin TKO'd Jean Claude Lafarge, five.

▲ **CONDE SUR ESCUART** — June 15th. Didier Kowalski retained his French lightweight title, stopping Daniel Ballontonio, three. Junior lightweights: Tuhisolela Nhalanhete beat Francis Bailleul on points, six.

▲ **CRIEL** — Welterweights: Jean Jacques Benchetrit outpointed Jean Paul Coppyn over six rounds. Guy Caudron won the vacant French bantamweight title, halting Jean Jacques Souris, nine. Junior middles: Maurice Renaud drew his six-rounder with Patrick Bafouram.

▲ **ALFORTVILLE** — June 21st. Georges Warusfel won the vacant French junior middleweight title, knocking out Michel Chapier, eleven. Welters: Claude Lancastre TKO'd Gilles Elbilia, five.

▲ **VALENCE** — Junior lightweights: Charles Jurietti TKO'd Palmiro Masala, five.

GERMANY

▲ **MUNICH** — Mate Parlov, Yugoslavia, kayoed Joe Maye, U.S.A., six. Middleweights: Mauro Valentino, the Munich based Italian, outscored Sece Scheszek, Yugoslavia, four. Junior welters: Erwin Heiber, Germany, drew, six, with Franco Aresti, Italy, providing the crowd with the best fight of the evening. Georg Steinherr, Germany, kayoed Pablo Rodriguez, U.S.A., four. Light heavyweights: Milan Popovic, Yugoslavia, making his professional debut, outscored the Berlin based Turk, Vedat Akova, four.

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EUROPEAN RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion: Lorenzo Zanon
1. Alfredo Evengelista (S)
2. Alfio Righetti (I)
3. John L. Gardner (GB)
4. Al Syben (B)
5. Paul Sykes (GB)
6. Les Stevens (GB)
7. Tommy Kiely (GB)
8. Lucien Rodriguez (F)
9. Felipe Rodriguez (S)
10. Tony Moore (GB)

LIGHT HEAVIES
Champion: Rudi Koopmans (H)
1. Mate Parlov (Y)
2. John Conteh (GB)
3. Aldo Traversaro (I)
4. Hocine Tafer (F)
5. Avenamar Peralta (S)
6. Ennio Cometti (I)
7. Harold Skog (N)
8. David Conteh (GB)
9. Bunny Johnson (GB)
10. Robert Amory (F)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion: Alan Minter (GB)
1. Gratien Tonna (F)
2. Kevin Finnegan (GB)
3. Tony Sibson (GB)
4. Frankie Lucas (GB)
5. Matteo Salvemini (I)
6. Frank Wissenbach (G)
7. Alfredo Naveiras (S)
8. George Steinherr (G)
9. Alvaro Scarpelli (I)
10. Roy Gumbs (GB)

JUNIOR MIDDLES
Champion: Marijan Benes (Y)
1. Maurice Hope (GB)
2. Adoni Amana (S)
3. Jimmy Batten (GB)
4. Gianni Molesini (I)
5. Damiano Lassandro (I)
6. Pat Thomas (GB)
7. Luigi Minchillo (I)
8. Jose Hernandez (S)
9. Georges Warusfel (F)
10. Claude Martin (F)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Jorgen Hansen (D)
1. Dave Green (GB)
2. Hans Henrik Palm (D)
3. Kirkland Laing (GB)
4. Dum Dum Pacheco (S)
5. Giovanni Molesini (I)
6. Louis Acaries (F)
7. Richard Rodriguez (S)
8. Joey Mack (GB)
9. Alois Carmeliet (B)
10. Henry Rhiney (GB)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion: Joe Kimpuani (F)
1. Fernando Sanchez (S)
2. Jose Luis Heredia (S)
3. Colin Powers (GB)
4. Giuseppe Martinese (I)
5. Clinton McKenzie (GB)
6. Svein Erik Paulsen (N)
7. Des Morrison (GB)
8. Roberto Gambini (F)
9. Sylvester Mittee (GB)
10. Giuseppe Corbo (I)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Charlie Nash (GB)
1. Jim Watt (GB)
2. Ray Cattouse (GB)
3. Perico Fernandez (S)
4. Andre Holyk (F)
5. Giancarlo Usai (I)
6. Manuel Velasquez (S)
7. Paperito Gimmenez (S)
8. Didier Kowalski (G)
9. Angelo Provenzaro (I)
10. Antonio Guinaldo (S)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion: Rodolfo Sanchez (S)
1. Carlos Hernandez (S)
2. Natale Vezzoli (I)
3. Charles Jurietti (F)
4. Maurice Apeang (F)
5. Isidor Cabeza (S)
6. Ramon Marichal (S)
7. Artistide Pizzo (I)
8. Salvatore Liscapade (I)
9. Nino Jimenez (S)
10. Cosimo Lavino (I)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion: Roberto Castanon (S)
1. Cecilio Lastra (S)
2. Dave Needham (GB)
3. Manuel Masso (S)
4. Pat Codwell (GB)
5. Jimmy Flint (GB)
6. Natale Garedda (I)
7. Salvatore Melluzzo (F)
8. Les Pickett (GB)
9. Nani Rodriguez (S)
10. Gerard Jacob (F)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion: Juan Francisco Rodriguez (S)
1. Johnny Owen (GB)
2. Franco Zurlo (I)
3. Estaban Eguia (S)
4. Laurent Grimbert (F)
5. Vincente Rodriguez (S)
6. Guiseppe Fossati (I)
7. Dave Smith (GB)
8. John Feeney (GB)
9. Luigi Tessarin (I)
10. Valero Nati (I)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion: Charlie Magri (GB)
1. Givanni Camputaro (I)
2. Manuel Carrasco (S)
3. Emilio Pireddu (I)
4. Mariano Garcia (S)
5. Franco Buglione (I)
6. Sabatino DeFilippo (I)
7. Rodriguez Cal (S)
8. Claude Tanda (I)
9. Filippo Belvedere (I)
10. Jaime Lozano (S)

Legend: (B) Belgium; (D) Denmark; (F) Finland; (G) Germany; (GB) Great Britain; (H) Holland; (I) Italy; (L) Luxembourg; (N) Norway; (S) Spain; (Sd) Switzerland; (Sw) Sweden; (Y) Yugoslavia.

ITALY

▲ **TARANTO** — Lightweights: Vincenzo Quero outscored Antonio Puddu, ten.

▲ **SAN PAOLO** — In a bout for the Italian junior middleweight title, Luigi Minchillo kayoed Paolo Zanusso, five.

▲ **RIMINI** — European heavyweight champion Lorenzo Zanon retained his title, drawing with fellow Italian Alfio Righetti over twelve rounds.

▲ **SENNEIGALIA** — Giuseppe Martinese retained his Italian junior welter title when his bout with Francisco Gallo was declared "no contest" in the sixth.

▲ **CAGLIARI** — Flyweights: Emilio Pireddu TKO'd Claude Tanda, five.

SPAIN

▲ **VELANCIA** — Featherweights: Roberto Castanon outpointed Claudio dos Santos, eight. Bantams: Juan Francisco Rodriguez TKO'd Patriota Lindarte, four. Vicente Rodriguez kayoed Jaban Oliveira, four.

▲ **VALLADOLID** — Featherweights: Carlos Hernandez outscored Juarez DeLima, eight. Welters: Dum Dum Pacheco and Carlos Morales drew their eight-rounder. Antonio Casada shared points with Oswaldo Lopez, eight. Lightweights: Manuel Masso outscored Hector Molina, eight. Junior welters: Francisco Leon outpointed Mohamed Jofre, eight.

▲ **PONTEVERDE** — Felipe Rodriguez retained his Spanish heavyweight crown, drawing a ten-rounder with Alfredo Evangelista.

▲ **LEPE** — Juan Rodriguez, Spain, retained his European bantamweight title, outscoring Frenchman Laurent Grimbert, twelve.

▲ **MALLORCA** — Welterweights: Dum Dum Pacheco kayoed Jimmy Davies five. Junior lightweights: Isidoro Cabeza outscored Andres Malanga, eight. Lightweights: Emilio Barcala outscored Jesus Barros, eight.

▲ **ZARAGOZA** — Lightweights: Angel Oliver outscored Manuel Masso, eight.

▲ **SAN SEBASTIAN** — Junior welters: Perico Fernandez kayoed Bouchiba Messaoud, four. Middleweights: Inaki Gorostidi outscored Alberto Ramirez, eight. Junior lightweights: Amalio Galan outscored Francisco Cabello, eight.

▲ **MATARO** — Alfredo Naveiras retained his Spanish middleweight title, drawing with Jose Lozano, ten.

▲ **BILBAO** — Welterweights: Richard Rodriguez outscored Fernand Sanchez, eight. Lightweights: Manuel Velasquez outscored Tapsoba Tiger, eight.

▲ **MALLORCA** — Lightweights: Perico Fernandez kayoed Benny Huertas, one. Bantamweights: Tanio Garcia del Moral outscored Esteban Eguia, eight. Welterweights; Aureliano Guemez outpointed Manuel Sanchez, eight.

▲ **SANTANDER** — Bantamweights: Torito Gomez TKO'd Juan Francisco Rodriguez, five. Lightweights: Nino Jiminez outscored Hector Molina, eight.

TURKEY

▲ **ISTANBUL** — Junior middleweights: Kadir Yuceler outscored George Lemmer, ten.

YUGOSLAVIA

▲ **BELGRADE** — Junior middleweights: Sonny Kamunga TKO'd Franz Dorfer, four.

JACK A. TREE

AFRICA

RHODESIA

▲ **BULAWAYO — South African heavyweight Robbie Williams blasted Ringo Starr, Rhodesia, out in 0:55 of the first round of a scheduled eight-rounder. Starr used left jabs to start off with, and Williams was stirred into action. A left-right combo has Starr on the ropes but Ringo then responded with a left that sent Williams back. A straight right from Williams then had Starr back on the ropes and two more blows sent Ringo to the canvas. On arising, a barrage of blows from Williams sent Starr to the floor again. He rose, went down again, and that was it.**

Bruce McIntyre TKO'd Nelson Bosso, middleweights. Bennie Nortman kayoed Jimmy Ellis, three, welters. Thomas Sithebe TKO'd Jey Nardo, six, feathers.

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SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

▲ EAST LONDON—Sisa Dukashe Stadium—Nkosana "Happy Boy" Mgxaji was stripped of his South African junior lightweight title when he failed to take the weight for his title defense against Evans Gwiji, but he scored a narrow points win over 12 rounds before a crowd of 15,000. A blistering attack in the last five rounds clinched the decision for "Happy Boy," who will campaign as a lightweight in the future.

Guy Ratazayo outscored Charles Boias, six, junior lightweights. Monde Mpulampula outpointed Dexter Dhlamini, six, flyweights. Welile Nkosinkulu iced Shadrack Mogopudi, one, bantams. Mzwandile Biyana outscored Ephraim Mabena, six, junior welterweights. George Selebi TKO'd Mzwandile Mquanto, three, welters.

NATAL

▲ DURBAN—Seaman's Institute Hall—Moses Mthembu won a clear victory over Nicholas Gumede over 10 rounds in a fight for the Natal junior welter title. A bad gash under Mthembu's left eye due to a clash of heads nearly put Mthembu out of the running, but referee Peter Conradt applied the "no foul" rule and gave him five minutes to recover. Mthembu then came back to bombard Gumede with a series of blows to win the unanimous decision.

Veteran Joe Sishi outscored Jabulani, six, middleweights. Joseph Thabethe and Graham Mdingi drew, four, junior middles. Alfred Ndhlovu decisioned Michael Miava, four, junior welterweights. Themba Ntuli outscored Milton Zaondi, four, junior lightweights.

▲ EMPANGENI—Mick Kelly Park—Theunis Kok destroyed Smiley Giesing at 2:09 of the first round before 3,000 people. Giesing was on the canvas twice, two left hooks doing the job. One was to the jaw and the other to the body, and Giesing was in no shape to continue when the referee called a halt. Kok was impressive in this light heavyweight bout scheduled for eight rounds.

Champion Mokone kayoed Solomon Diadia, five, light heavyweights. Jerome Gumede TKO'd Essau Dhlamini, eight, junior lightweights. Wally Bubb outscored Martin Twala, four, junior welters. Joseph Zikali TKO'd Ness Roux, four, junior middleweights. Lucky Masondo outpointed Isaac Dube, four, middleweights.

ORANGE FREE STATE

▲ WELKOM—Samuel Tshabalala, welterweight, was beaten by a TKO in the eighth round of a bout with Samuel Motake and died the following day without regaining consciousness. He collapsed in the eighth round and was taken to the provincial hospital. Tshabalala was a substitute against Motake. The fight had been even and Tshabalala did not collapse from a hard blow. He was married and rated number three in the Free State.

TRANSVAAL

▲ JOHANNESBURG—Wembley Sports Pavilion—Jimmy Abbot knocked out Hennie Thoonen of Holland in 2:06 of the first round before a crowd of 3,000.

Bushy Bester TKO'd Gert Craemer, three, junior middleweights. Bruce McIntyre knocked out Themba Buthelezi, one, middleweights. Basil Meintjies outscored Raymond Mashifane, four, middleweights. Caifus Masondo TKO'd James Meiring, four, heavyweights.

ED CLARK

ORIENT

KIM-SUZUKI

Tokyo, Japan — Hard punching Toshiaki Suzuki, Japan's world contender in the World Boxing Council's newly established cruiserweight division, should have been headliner of the month.

Having demolished Korea's Heun-Won Kang in four furious rounds in the WBC's semi-final in Tokyo last May, Suzuki was scheduled to enter a final eliminator to decide the first WBC world cruiserweight champion this fall. Meanwhile, Suzuki, a 25-year-old six-footer, engaged in a tune-up with the much shorter Chung-Shik Kim, Korea, at Korakuen Hall. Suzuki, 178⅓, missed plenty of punches, absorbed more than a few counterpunches, and lost a very close decision to Kim after 10 frames.

It was a majority decision. Referee Yoshida and judge Saski each scored it 49-46 for Kim while judge Uchida had it a draw, 47-47. The decision was received well by the crowd.

Hiroyuki Tada, 105¾, a fast, unbeaten southpaw, eked out a unanimous decision over Toshikazu Higa, 108½, six. Masanao Ishikawa, 113½, made his pro debut by scoring a one-punch knockout over Kazuo Maruyama, 115, in the second.

Attendance — 1,200. Presented by Kyoei Promotions and telecast through TBS-TV of Tokyo.

JAPAN

▲ HIROSAKI CITY — Korea's Hong-Soo Yang, 112, regained the OPBF flyweight title with a popular majority decision over Tsutomu (Riki) Igarashi, also 112, in twelve rounds. Yang, a busy lefty, kept on the aggressive and chased Igarashi from pillar to post in the fourth round after connecting with a roundhouse left to the face.

Takeshi Ryu, 118, outpointed Shinji Taki, eight.

Attendance — 2,000.

▲ OSAKA — Prefectural Gymnasium — The Japanese Boxing Commission's second-ranked featherweight, Kanekatsu Daito, 124½, who had previously fought as Shinichi Aoki, battered Koji Kunishige, 124, with effective body bombardments, and demolished him at 1:52 of the eighth round.

It was a lopsided affair. The faster Aoki dropped his lanky rival in rounds five and eight and upped his record to 12-5-1 with seven kayoes.

A companion tenner saw a stunning upset. Hitherto unbeaten Tokuo Maruuchi, 129¼, was stopped at 2:53 of the fourth round by trial horse Kojiro Sasaki, Nagoya, 129. Maruuchi, the best Shinjin-o (Novice King) winner of 1979, had won his first six professional bouts by knockout, and was ranked sixth by the Japanese Boxing Commission. He lacked his usual zip against Sasaki, however, and seemed bewildered by the latter's opening attack. Sasaki took the play away from Maruuchi, knocked him down in the fourth round, and had him helpless in the eighth when referee Kurume called a halt. Sasaki's record is now 13-5-4 with only four kayoes.

Nessie Horiguchi, 161¾, won a majority decision over Masahide Kitamura, 160, eight.

Attendance — 1,700.

▲ OSAKA — Sakuranomiya Skate Arena — Southpaw Jo Tatsuki, 121½, a 1979 Shinjin-o winner, floored Abebe Yoshida, 121½, twice and finished him in the second round.

Yoshiya Shizuka, 118, won a unanimous decision over Yuji Fujiwara, 117¾, six.

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — Hard hitting Kenichi Ito, 121½, the JBC's third-ranked junior featherweight, scored three knockdowns and won a unanimous decision over Isao Okahashi, 122, in 10.

Okahashi made good use of his superior speed in the beginning of the contest, but the flat-footed Ito, 14-3-2 with seven kayoes, chased and caught him with a vicious left to the jaw in the fifth session and dropped him for the mandatory eight count. Okahashi, 13-8-1 with 11 kayoes, fought back hard, but a chopping right to the button put him down again in the eighth round. Okahashi came back hard in the last round, but could not overcome the deficit in points.

Referee Tezaki scored it 45-44, while judges Ugo and Field had it 48-44 and 46-44, respectively, all in Ito's favor.

In the semi-final, also scheduled for ten, Puma Koya, 108, overwhelmed the skillful but glass-jawed Keisuke Yuguchi, 107¼, dropped him three times, and won on an automatic TKO.

Naoto Suzuki, 150, a puzzling southpaw, knocked out Mamoru Taira, in the sixth round with a solid body shot. It was Suzuki's fourth knockout in five pro bouts.

Attendance — 1,200.

▲ TOKYO Korakuen Hall — There was almost a big upset, but Japanese flyweight champion Koichi Maki, 112¾, emerged the victor when southpaw Kazumasa Tamaki, 113, was forced to retire from a wide gash over his left eyebrow at 2:29 of the eighth session.

The taller and faster Tamaki had clearly dominated the second, third, fourth, and fifth rounds with one-two combinations. A couple of butts opened up the cut that led referee Morita to stop the bout and award Maki a technical knockout.

Maki is now 20-9-3. Tamaki, who deserves a rematch, is now 12-5-4.

The semi-final, also scheduled for ten, saw free-swinging Shoichi Kumada, 139½, the JBC's sixth-ranked junior welterweight, eke out a majority decision over taller Toru Sugawara, 138¾. Scoring was as follows: referee Ugo and judge Nakamori, both 48-47; judge Kumazaki, 48-48.

Mitsuo Kobayashi, 130, outscored Masatomo Sakai, 130, six.

Attendance — 1,200

▲ TOKYO — Korakuen Hall — In one of the best bouts of the year, Japanese junior flyweight champion Kazunori Tenryu, 106½, turned the tables in the tenth and final round, when he fought back desperately and scored an amazing knockout over Masaharu Inami, 108, a hitherto unbeaten challenger, at 1:37 of the session.

It was the 29-year-old Tenryu's 15th defense of the national crown in four and one-half years.

Ringsiders talked about Tenryu's declining power and Inami's superior speed as the contest was being dominated by the 21-year-old prospect. Inami, 10-0-1 with four wins inside the

distance, took the second and fifth rounds and downed the champ on the ropes for a compulsory eight-count in round six. The 4'9" Tenryu missed too often and absorbed too much, losing the seventh stanza. Bleeding from the nose, the game Tenryu began to attack the challenger with short combos and won the eighth and ninth stanzas. In the tenth and final round, the shortest fighter in Japan caught Inami and dropped him three times, forcing referee Uchida to call an automatic TKO. It reminded us of the legendary victory of Archie Moore over Yvon Durelle in 1958.

Tenryu's record is now 28-6-3, including 13 stoppages.

In a semi-windup ten, Shigeo Takagi, 145½, the JBC's sixth-ranked welterweight, disposed of lefty Kanichiro Takase, 145¼, in two rounds.

▲ **TOKYO** — The 22nd OPBF Annual Convention was held at the Grand Palace Hotel. The headquarters of the OPBF was rotated to Korea from Japan. The Korean Boxing Commission will administrate the Federation for the next two years. The member countries represented were Japan, Korea, Thailand, Australia, the Republic of China, Indonesia, and Papua, New Guinea.

This reporter worked as a coordinator and interpreter at the conference. One of the main themes, for three days, was the selection of officials by the WBA and WBC.

The OPBF Convention decided to appeal to the WBA and the WBC asking that neutral officials (referees, judges, and supervisor) be nominated from the Oriental and Pacific region in order to lower the cost of promoting world title contests.

KOREA

▲ **PUSAN** — Korean middleweight champion Chong-Pal Park kayoed Junichi (Cassius) Naito, a Japanese southpaw, in the second session of a scheduled 12-rounder to win the OPBF middleweight title. A right to the button was the haymaker. The throne had been vacant since the retirement of Jae-Do Yuh.

▲ **PUSAN** — Sang-Mo Koo won the OPBF junior welterweight crown by outpointing Japanese champion Noboru Hatakeyama, 12. The title had been vacant since Sang-Hyun Kim, the last champion, gave it up after winning the WBC world crown.

Both fighters were cautious, and the lack of action sometimes caused the crowd to jeer. Koo, 26 years old and standing 5'9", was in command by a slight margin in the fourth and six. Hatakeyama could not score effectively with his favorite combinations, but seemed to win the eighth.

The official scoring was as follows: referee Hyo-Kon Kim, 60-58; Korean judge Jae-Koo Suh, 59-57; Japanese judge Takeaki Kanaya, 59-56 — all in favor of Koo.

The hairline victory upped Koo's record to 20-1-1 with 12 kayoes.

▲ **SEOUL** — In the semi-final to the WBC junior flyweight title contest between Sun-Jun Kim and Siony Carupo, WBC junior welterweight champion Sang-Hyun Kim took on Thai champion Thom Singsanongsakdi in a ten-round non-title bout.

Singsanongsakdi was no match for the taller and faster Kim. A southpaw, Kim utilized his longer reach to outjab his opponent prior to knocking him out with a short right to the jaw in 2:12 of the second round.

Kap-Chol Shin, the Korean Boxing Commission's second-ranked flyweight contender, drew with William Develos, 10.

▲ **SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium** — Flyweight Kap-Chol Shin knocked out Thai newcomer Soriya Prathumvadee in the eighth round.

Chong-Yun Lee, the KBC's third-ranked junior lightweight, stopped Manus Lo-ngerng in the third.

The card was presented by Daehan Promotions.

▲ **SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium** — Up-and-coming junior lightweight Chung-Il Choi halted Filipino Dony Soriano in the fifth.

Saeki Promotions presented the card.

▲ **CHUNGJU** — Korean junior welterweight champion Chong-Ho Kim swarmed over Dan de Guzman, from the Philippines, and demolished him midway in the sixth round of their scheduled 10-rounder. Dan had beaten former WBC world champion Saensak Muangsurin in his last fight.

Featherweight prospect Chong-Man Yuh won a unanimous decision over Boy Reyes, Philippines, in a companion 10.

▲ **SEOUL — Munhwa Stadium** — Yong-Hyun Kim won the Korean junior flyweight title with a unanimous decision over Eun-Hee Kim, 10.

Hard-hitting Jung-Chol Kim, the KBC's second-ranked 122-pounder, stopped national champ Chong-Woo Baek in the third round. A real upset.

The card was put on by Chunchung Promotions.

PHILIPPINES

▲ **MANILA — Ramada Hotel** — Nene June, featherweight champion of the GAB (Games and Amusements Board, the governmental commission of the Philippines), successfully defended his title with a 12-round unanimous decision over Romy Cunanan, 126. June, who also weighed 126, was named the GAB Fighter of the Month after this important victory.

In a companion 12-rounder, GAB bantamweight titlist Billy Abato, 116, also retained his crown by unanimous decision, beating Raffy Saulong, 117½.

In a supporting ten, Nacias Francisco, 119¾, and Jaime Sanama, 123, battled to a technical draw midway in the contest.

▲ **MANILA — Rizal Memorial Coliseum** — Filipino flyweight champion Arnel Arrozal, won a unanimous decision over Siony Carupo, GAB junior flyweight leader at 114 pounds, in 10 hot rounds.

Carupo, a tough southpaw, drew with Chan-Hee Park last year. He was invited to Korea as a substitute challenger for WBC junior flyweight kingpin Sung-Jun Kim after losing to Arrozal.

Lord Esmero, 106¼, eked out a split nod over Henry Balina, 109¼, 10.

Lito Pena, 134, the GAB's seventh-ranked lightweight, won a unanimous decision over Baby Art Alcantara, 134, 10.

Al Espinosa, 135¾, beat Joe Almano, 133½, 10.

The card was presented by Ace-Hi Promotions.

▲ **MANILA — Rizal Memorial Coliseum** — GAB junior middleweight champion Aquilino Nicolas, 154¼, whipped Tito Gonzaga, 167, 10. Gonzaga was no match for the aggressive national champ in spite of huge weight advantage.

Former national junior welterweight champion Dan De Guzman, 147, continued his winning ways by stopping June Sarana, also 147, in the second session of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Edward Heneral, 140, the GAB's top junior welterweight contender, pounded out a unanimous decision over Ton Singthanongsak, 10.

Cesar Amazan, 118, won an upset decision over Eddie Miral, 118¾, 10.

Another upset saw Rene Busayong, 112, beating Rodrigo Saonoy, 112, 10.

Frank Cedeno, the GAB's second-ranked flyweight, won a unanimous decision over Robinson Abato, 113, 10.

The six 10-rounders were presented by Paciencia Hitosis.

▲ **DAVAO CITY** — Filipino junior flyweight champion Ric Diamale, 121, outscored Chito Adigue, 120½, 10.

Winnie Guinieta, 141, TKO'd Cris Boy Otero, 144, in the eighth round. This surprising triumph upped Guinieta to the number four slot in the GAB junior welterweight rankings.

▲ **ZAMBOANGA CITY** — San Sacristan, 126, outscored Young Fely, 126, 10.

▲ **DAVAO CITY** — Joe Lim, 138, the top contender for the national lightweight crown, outpointed William Mardizon, also 138, 10.

Nilo Acido, 134, a junior lightweight, won a unanimous decision over Keystone Flash, 133, 10.

Primo Bulambao, 130½, the GAB's fifth-ranked featherweight, whipped Ric Dolotallas, 129½, in 10 hard-fought rounds.

It was Antonio Inigo's card.

▲ **GEN. SANTOS CITY** — Ver Libradilla, 111, and Ric Barimbad, also 111, battled to a split draw in 10 hard-fought rounds.

Geron Rorras, 125, won a unanimous decision over Jun Moises, also 125, 10.

▲ **CEBU CITY** — Two GAB champions met in a scheduled 10-rounder. Ruben Rabago, 141¾, the junior welterweight champion, TKO'd Gideon Toyogon, 156, the welterweight king, in the third round.

Each entered the ring over his respective class limit in order to make it a non-title bout. Rabago, outweighed by over 14 pounds, swarmed over Toyogon from the start.

Tony Flores, 136¼, kayoed Mike Benitez, 136½, in the third round of a scheduled ten. This was an astonishing upset, as Benitez had been rated the number one contender for the Fili-

pino lightweight title.

Dommy Marolena, 124, showed speed and power in demolishing Anthony Jamid, 121, in the seventh round. Marolena is the GAB's top featherweight contender.

▲ **ANGELS CITY —** Dony Soriano, 136, was unable to finish Al Del Rosario, 137, but won a unanimous decision after 10.

In a 10-round semi-final, Young Dela Cruz, 133, the number two contender for the Filipino junior lightweight title, decisively whipped Mar Marin, 135.

▲ **MANILA — Rizal Memorial Coliseum —** Former OPBF junior lightweight champ Rey Tam, 131, a southpaw, stopped Nardito Adrayan, 132, in the sixth round.

Lino Boy Base, 110¼, won a unanimous decision over Melchor Degsi, 110¼, 10.

▲ **DAVAO CITY —** Ric Barimbad, 110, the GAB's third-ranked junior flyweight, was held to a split draw by Lino Boy Base, 109, in 10 hairline rounds.

Ronald Sumalis, 120½, the top bantamweight contender of the Philippines, proved too strong for Jaime Enriquex, 123, and won a unanimous decision, 10.

Nilo Acid, 132¼, a hard puncher who is ranked fourth by the GAB, stopped Max Boy Toyogon, 132¼, in the ninth.

The triple tenner was presented by Felipe Alvaro.

▲ **CEBU CITY —** Rudy Patalinhug, 121¼, a rising super bantamweight, won a unanimous decision over Thai veteran Thanomchit Sukothai, 124, 10.

Tony Flores, 136½, halted Rod Delos Santos, 136½, in the seventh round.

Ben Aldeguer, 109, the GAB's second-ranked junior flyweight, beat Demetrio Alferez, 110, 10.

▲ **QUEZON CITY —** Rudy Garcia, 121, the ninth-ranked Filipino junior featherweight, stunned the crowd with a first-round TKO over June Belemac, 122½, in a scheduled ten.

It was Ramon Lainez's card.

THAILAND

▲ **BANGKOK — Lumpinee Stadium —** Fahsurin V. Suthiphan scored a major upset when he outscored Pisvong Sithbungerd, six. Sithbungerd was the Thai Boxing Commission's fifth-ranked junior featherweight.

▲ **BANGKOK — Lumpinee Stadium —** Krasaesin Lerkhai, a hard-hitting Thai, returned to ring warfare and knocked out Daownoi Sithsaneh in the fourth round.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Dorn Sornsakdisith knocked out Thai featherweight champion Kolyuth P. Punyuth in the third round of a non-title bout. Sornsakdisith is now the TBC's number one contender.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Up-and-coming flyweight Somboon Chuvatana stopped Pracha V. Charernrat in the third.

▲ **BANGKOK — Rajadamnern Stadium —** Bantamweight Sakdisamai Ch. Sirirat halted Ronnachai Singtrokpai in the fourth.

JOE Y. KOIZUMI

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

Perennial welterweight contender Eddie Buttons, 145, finally got his chance at the Australian title, now held by Steve Dennis, 146¾, and Eddie blew it. But what a fight he put up! He struck Steve at the peak of the champion's form — his best form yet — and Dennis held his crown. Unfortunately, the fight ended because of a cut eye suffered by Buttons, which means the first "KO by" on Eddie's record in his 79 fights, but Dennis was in charge and would have gone on to victory in any case — barring something unexpected.

Buttons suffered a cut eyebrow from a punch in the fourth round but he continued to walk up and meet the champion until his corner hauled down the flag at 90 seconds of round nine.

The contest took place at Mt. Pritchard Community Club.

Dennis, a dynamite puncher (18 kayoes in 29 contests) punched hard and boxed well. He was aggressive. Buttons, a shade faster, flew back into the attack every time he was stung, but Eddie is not a big banger. But tough he is — never had a count applied on him in his career — and he took some solid shots from the champion.

After an even first round, Buttons edged the second as I saw it, but Dennis edged every round but one from then on, though Buttons made him fight for every point.

The doctor came to Buttons' corner at the end of the 4th to examine the cut eyebrow. The eye-cut opened again in the 5th and near the end of the 6th the referee Trevor Christian, who did a good job, called the doc to take another look. The doctor was not happy with the cut but he allowed the contest to proceed. Christian was in Eddie's corner again at the end of the 7th. The doctor was there at the end of the 8th. With Buttons lacking the power of punch to pull the fight out of the fire, with his eyebrow bleeding in every round and with seven more rounds to go (it was set for 15), the challenger's case looked bleak. Midway through the 9th his trainer called on Christian to stop the bout.

There was a 10-round support between Gary Rosen, 134, and Paul Baker, 134, for the vacant New South Wales State lightweight title, and at the end of the contest the title remained vacant as Trevor Christian (sole arbiter) declared a draw. Good fight with action all the way. A re-match is likely.

Brian Roberts, 122, had his work cut out in defending his Australian junior-featherweight title against Charlie Brown, 120, over 12 rounds at Cardiff Workers Club. Roberts won by an official one point and the boxers shared a $50 shower of coins and notes from appreciative fans. These two had met before with Roberts defending title. On that occasion Brown showed outstanding courage but copped a solid beating on points. This time Charlie did better, while Brian was a little off.

At Kingsford, Fetiaki Namoa, 188, a Fijian living in Australia who holds the New South Wales State heavyweight title, held his crown by outpointing Les Miller, 183, over 10 rounds.

Two weeks earlier, at the same club, Ruby Steele, 173, had his first win in several fights when he outpointed comebacking John Layton in the main-event eight. Layton, who once held the Australian junior-middle title, came in at 174 (the boy is growing!) and lacked the edge.

At Spring Vale, Ruby Steele shaped up to Stan Bogovic, light heavy from the State of Victoria, and Stan won by a second-round kayo win. Billed for ten rounds.

In the main support over eight, Darryl Carrick gave away a lot of weight to Ken Holden and Holden, having his fourth pro bout after an amateur career of 30, won on points. Holden scaled a fraction under 160 to Carrick's 147¾.

At Berkeley, Alex Temelkov, 154, knocked down Ken Morris, 156, three times on the way to stopping Morris in round seven. Morris was fresh from a points win over Tim Frankic. That was over eight at Brookvale.

Not much action this month but there are some interesting contests on the board.

FIJI

Phil "Spider" Davies, leading contender for the Australian junior middleweight title, came to Fiji to tackle Sakaraia Ve at Laucalo Bay and there certainly were fun and games: the referee scored 96-96, one judge carded 97-97, which meant a draw was the decision, according to rules all over the world where three officials are used to score a fight. But the other judge carded for Ve, 98-97, so Ve was announced as the winner!

Mumtaz Ali, secretary of the Professional Boxing & Wrestling Association of Fiji, phoned me to tell me of the events. Why did the Association allow the verdict? Ali explained: "A rival organization has been formed here, calling itself Fiji Boxing Council, and this organization promoted the fight. Obviously those in charge do not know the rules."

Obviously, they don't. In fact, the decision must be recorded as a draw.

RAY MITCHELL

WORLD-WIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Larry Holmes stopped Earnie Shavers, 11
(Retained WBC Championship)
Mike Weaver knocked out Harry Terrell, 4
Kallie Knoetze halted Georg Butzbach, 6
Eddie Lopez decisioned Jimmy Abbott, 10
Jerry Foley kayoed Quinnie Locklear, 6
Scott Frank stopped Bill Connell, 7
Greg Page halted Oliver Phillips, 4
Tom Fischer decisioned Mike Tarasewich, 10
Earl Tripp kayoed Mustafa El-Amin, 1
Eddie Greg stopped Lew Lockwood, 3
Ali Allen halted Rubio Rodriguez, 1
Ken Austin iced Arnold Sam, 6
Harvey Steichen stopped Junior Albers, 8
Michael Dokes decisioned Jimmy Young, 10
Mircea Simon drew LeRoy Caldwell, 10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Mate Parlov decisioned Tony Mundine, 12
Ramon Ranquello stopped Mike Rossman, 6
Eddie Gregory iced Chuck Wilburn, 1
Lotte Mwale kayoed Vandell Woods, 3
Jerry Martin knocked out Leo Rogers, 4
Mike Harden stopped Kevin Howard, 1
Harry Fryar decisioned Mike Fisher, 6
Thor Middleton halted Charles Good, 1

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Nino Gonzalez decisioned Rusty Rosenberger, 12
Mustafa Hamsho stopped Fermin Guzman, 7
Tony Chiaverini knocked out Sandy Torres, 9
Curtis Parker halted Elisha Obed, 7
Marcos Geraldo kayoed Lorenzo Benitez, 2
Bennie Briscoe decisioned Ted Mann, 10
Wilford Scypion stopped Jose Gomez, 6
Mike Clark stopped Gabino Rizzo, 2
Gary Giron halted Paul Jones, 4
Arturo Zuniga kayoed Armando Alatorre, 3
Guy Gargan decisioned Ralph Mifka, 6

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Maurice Hope stopped Mike Baker, 7
(Retained WBC Title)
Luis Resto decisioned Billy Goodwin, 8
Danny Long decisioned Danny Pate, 6
Rafael Rodriguez decisioned Jerry Cheatham, 10

WELTERWEIGHTS

Sugar Ray Leonard knocked out Andy Price, 1
Roberto Duran decisioned Zeferino Gonzales, 10
Thomas Hearns kayoed Jose Figueroa, 3
Larry Stanton decisioned Sammy Ayala, 10
Dave Green halted Steve Michalerya, 3
Jose Duarte stopped Jose Baquedano, 7
Trinidad Madrid kayoed Arturo Guzman, 3
Abel Cordoba decisioned Adolfo Sanjeado, 10
Adan Chavarria halted Jose Luis Baltazar, 8

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS

Willie Rodriguez decisioned Art McKnight, 12
Idika Nsofor decisioned Leon Meza, 8
Fitzroy Guissippi beat Luis Rodriguez, 10
Jacier Rivas halted Francisco Del Toro, 10
Joe Sousa beat C.B. Brown, 6

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Howard Davis Jr. decisioned Maurice Watkins, 10
Alfredo Pitalua decisioned Aurelio Muniz, 10
Juan Hernandez stopped Lupe Perez, 7
Ney Gordillo beat Camilo Ibarra, 10
Frank Moultrie decisioned Fili Ramirez, 10
Herman Montes halted Ney Gordillo, 4
Leonardo Bermudez knocked out Lupe Galindo, 6
Juan Robles halted Jose Canchola, 4
Jose Luis Cisneros stopped Rafael Martinez, 4
Jose Luis Tapia kayoed Jose Luis Soberanes, 2
Mario "Cubanito" Hernandez halted Nacho Saucedo, 3
Pete Padilla decisioned Petis Whiters, 6

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS

Rocky Ramon drew with Juan Garcia, 10
Bubba Busceme kayoed Simmie Black, 3
Mauricio Aceves stopped Juan Soto, 3
Jose Luis Ramirez knocked out Ignacio Campos, 7

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Danny Lopez stopped Jose Caba, 3
(Retained WBC Title)
Rocky Lockridge decisioned Gerald Hayes, 12
Carmelo Negron stopped Livio Nolasco, 6
Juan LaPorte decisioned Joe Rivera, 8
Jimmy Flint halted Pee Wee Stokes, 4
Dennis Quimayousie decisioned Pancho Vellez, 8
Lionel Flapping Eagle decisioned Ronnie Furlow, 6
Leroy Hardiman stopped Roy Clarke, 5
John Salcedo halted Jose Corona, 4
Pablo Ramirez knocked out Juan Jiminez, 3
Leonardo Ramirez iced Porfirio Hernandez, 1
Albert Vasquez bombed Roberto Castillo, 1
Guillermo Morales stopped Jacinto Fuentes, 8

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS

Wilfredo Gomez knocked out Carlos Mendoza, 10
(Retained WBC Title)
Ricardo Cardona decisioned Yukio Segawa, 15
(Retained WBA Title)
Leo Randolph decisioned Jose Bautista, 10
Justo Garcia halted Rafael Gonzalez, 5
Alfonso Rodriguez beat Florentino Palomeque, 10
Rueben Smith decisioned Rosendo Lino, 6

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Enrique Muniz halted Ramon Guillen, 4
Artemio Ramirez stopped Jose Ruiz, 10
Francisco Marquez kayoed Topo Gigio Vasquez, 8
Felipe Fernandez stopped Serafin Pacheco, 3
Carmelo Montes decisioned Memo Ayala, 10
Obdulio Zuastegui, knocked out Raul Arroyo, 2
Hermelindo Estrada stopped Romulo Rocha, 7
Pedro Aguilar iced Ismael Rojas, 1
Al Cardenas kayoed Alvaro Jiminez, 3
Antonio Adame decisioned Erasmo Mendez, 10

FLYWEIGHTS

Chan-Hee Park drew with Miguel Canto, 15
(Retained WBC Title)
Jimmy Fernandez decisioned Luis Aguilar, 12
Charlie Magri halted Raul Pacheco, 6
Orlando Maldonado stopped Jose Ortiz, 3
Juan Zarate knocked out Humberto Cruz,2
Juan Herrera decisioned Antonio Benitez, 12
Alberto Morales beat Miguel Angel Gonzalez, 12
Antonio Avelar decisioned Samuel Machorro, 10
Luis Castillo halted Miguel Reyes, 3
Mario Juarez kayoed Jesus Hernandez, 3
Elfego Lopez stopped Ruben Mancilla, 7
Eduardo Acosta knocked out Marco Figueroa, 8
Arturo Gonzalez kayoed halted Ruben Mancilla, 7
Diego Franco stopped Miguel Barrera, 2
Mark Pacheco halted Francisco Rodriguez, 3
Jose Zavala decisioned Salvador Avendano, 10
Roberto Ramirez knocked out Jose Gallardo, 2

INSIDE BOXING

By "Sailor" DON SAUER

Probably the best of the old-time trainers and teachers of boxing is Lou Gross. Still active in the game, Gross has worked with seventeen world champions over his more than fifty years in the business. A sought-after veteran, Gross is now teaching a young middleweight out of Miami Beach by the name of Kenny Klingman. Kenny is a Jewish lad — and a middleweight with promise. He now sports a pro ring slate of 15 wins — all via the kayo route — certainly an indication of his punching prowess. Gross has shown him the "right leverage", that's for sure! A beginner, fighting ordinary foes to date, Klingman can "Whack" with authority. Lou has worked with the youngster for a year and a half now, and Kenny looks like money at this stage of his boxing career. Kenny Klingman is a good looking lad who, as Gross puts it, "should be a movie star instead of a fighter". Gross says, "If some 'chick' takes over, then I'll leave". If some 'chick' doesn't take over, he could make it a long way in the fight game.

Joe Herman, veteran San Francisco fight manager and promoter, at the age of 80, is traveling all over the northwest — Tacoma, Seattle, and Olympia, visiting old-timers he was associated with in boxing for over 60 years, and looking chipper indeed. Joe "toils" for his old featherweight, Leo Fried, now a prominent barrister in Frisco . . . A decision must be made — and now — with Sacramento's Pete Ranzany, who has had problems winning against the "names" of late. Pete, who was nurtured by Babe Griffin, has not been able to beat the top men in his division. Now he must decide whether or not to continue his ring career. As well as entertaining problems with his manager, Joey Lopes, plus his big loss to Sugar Ray Leonard, Ranzany must now face the likes of Tommy Hearns (the Detroit "hit man"), Roberto Duran, and hard punching Dave Green for decent paydays. This may entice Ranzany to "hang 'em up" for good. It might be a wise move . . .

It's good to hear that Chicago's Johnny Lira, who lost in his bid for the lightweight title, will be back in action. Lira is not discouraged and could very well emerge as a legitimate contender once again — he is young and is one of the few young white fighters around today who can fight . . . Speaking of white fighters — especially in the heavyweight division, which is badly lacking in them today — Mircea Simon is a "white hope" who is knocking them over on the Coast. Controlled by the Olympic in L.A., Simon is the Rumanian defector who is now ready for the "names" in the heavyweight division . . . Randy Shields, who lost to champ Pipino Cuevas in a title fight at Chicago, received $25,000 for his fine effort, while the champ pocketed $80,000, plus closed-circuit TV money. The thing that disturbed this corner most was "outsiders" coming into the Windy City to judge and referee those top title fights. The Chicago group of judges Ivan Bunny and Harold Marovitz — plus referees like Stan Berg and Leo Ranieri — are tops . . .

When they needed a top cut man in a Canadian title fight they knew where to look for him. They brought in Al Bachman from N.Y.C., son of the late great dean of the old-time fight managers Frank E. Bachman, who worked with Chris Clarke in his British Empire title fight against Clyde Gray. Gus MacLelland, a gentleman indeed, was the promoter of this card in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Bachman is the fellow who kept Fernand Marcotte from losing in the Eddie Melo fight in Montreal after he was badly cut early in the match. Al is also the manager of Marciano Bernardi, a middleweight socker of repute who campaigns in Canadian rings, as well as in the U.S., with success . . . Pat O'Grady does a great job of "moving" his son, Sean, and making the kid a lot of money — Sean will be in a title fight before he quits to become a doctor.

Angelo Dundee is one smart cookie and his philosophy always seems to pay off. He has told me many times, "fighters make fighters when they fight talent — but boxing mediocre guys tends to make a fighter remain the same. That is why I like my kids to escalate as they go on . . ." It has worked, and he has had some champions — plus the fact that he is still going strong making contenders and "kings" . . . The Vito Antuofermo-Marvin Hagler fight, when it does come off, should prove interesting. Hagler feels he is a "shoo-in", but he could well be in for a surprise. The newest Brockton, Mass. blockbuster has psyched himself to believe that Antuofermo is afraid of him. He does not realize that Vito has absolutely no fear. The fight will not be a cakewalk by any stretch of the imagination . . .

John Conteh is through — but he proved that Matt Franklin is not that much either. Franklin was hard-pressed to lick John, who had the hard-punching Philadelphian off balance the whole fifteen rounds. I thought a draw would have been a good duke here — Franklin did not impress me at all. He has an awful lot to learn, and quickly — after all, he is recognized as the champion . . . Didjaknow that top ranked light heavyweight contender Yaqui Lopez toils in a cannery when not prepping for ring action? Yaqui is managed by his father-in-law Jack Cruz. Lopez will finally fulfill his contract to box James Scott at Rahway State Prison in December.

Ken Norton possesses a strange style — but you cannot knock success. There are four basic punches — left jab, left hook, right cross and right uppercut. Norton comes out with his left hand behind his backside — and his right arm across his face. He cannot throw an orthodox punch without changing stance. All he can throw from that position is a winging left . . . Maybe it is time for Ken, now in his mid-thirties, to take his "shot" at the movies. He's a good looking lad, and has gone about as far as he can go . . .

Tex Jordan is a big booster of Ring #107 in Providence, R.I. Tex is the possessor of the Tex Jordan Collection of Western Memorabilia at the University of Wyoming, and is also the publicity man for that order . . . Larry Bolvin, who beat the best around New Englnad is his heyday, is president of Ring #107 — and best of all — they are all readers of *Ring* magazine . . . Former light heavyweight champ, Billy Conn, is now an active "campaigner" for politicians in Pittsburgh. Joey Diven — probably the very best street fighter ever — ran for notary in the Democratic primary and Conn worked for him. He ran against the incumbent and lost, but he proved that he could get votes. Joey said he and Conn hit the bars — Billy would have a few shots of Canadian Club and he would get in a religious mood and start campaigning for the Blessed Mother. Billy Conn takes his religion a lot more seriously, apparently, than Joey Diven did his politics. Billy is a winner yet . . .

As a youth, former welterweight champion, Carlos Palomino was a shoe-shine boy in Tijuana, Mexico. Now he is a graduate of Long Beach State and has been taking acting lessons to begin a movie or television career and is currently starring in William Saroyan's "Time of Your Life" at the Beverly Hills Playhouse. He also works with young people in a non-profit boxing program. The champ is now retired — and ready to embark on his new career. We wish him the very best. Carlos Palomino has been a credit to boxing . . .

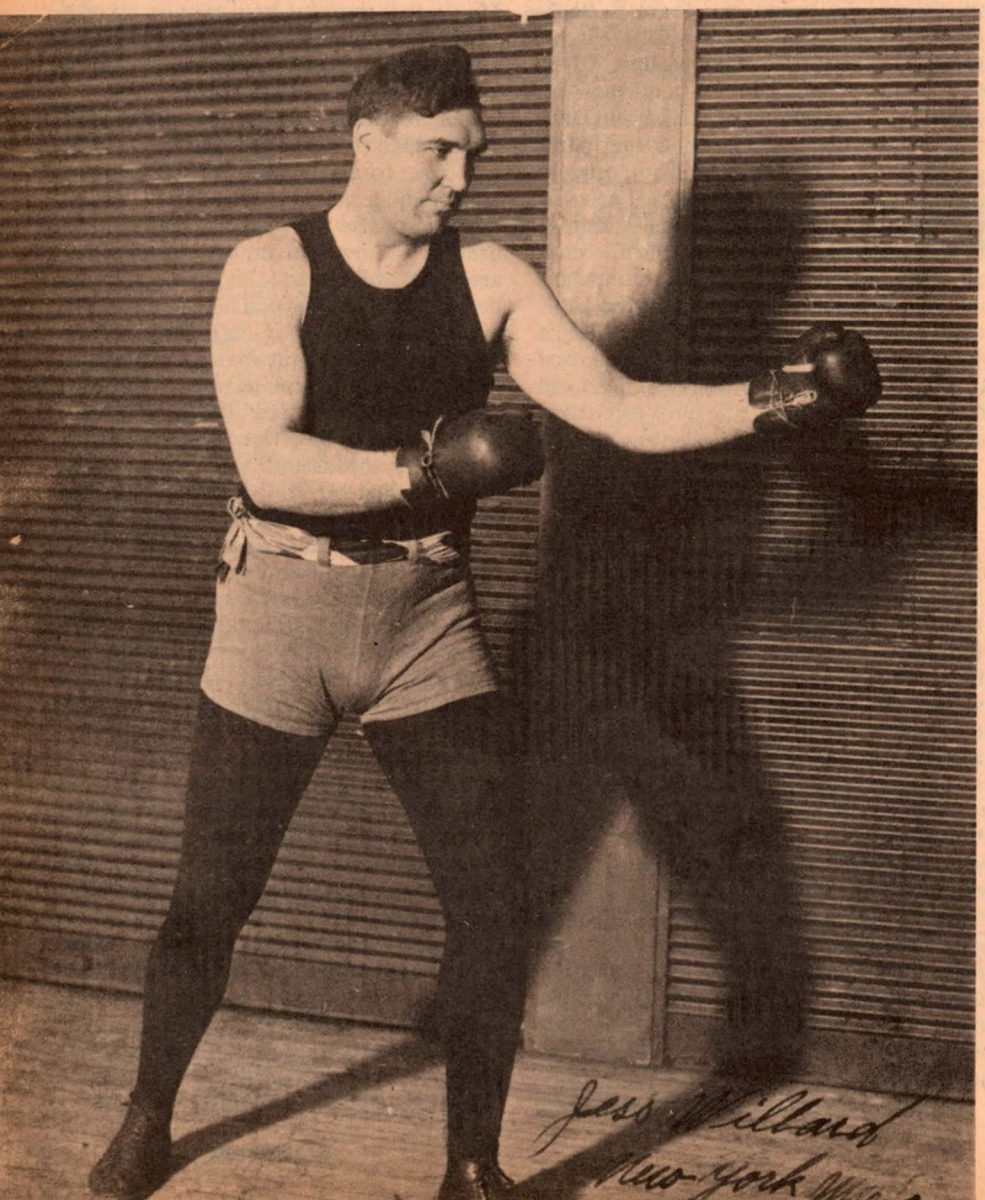
See you next month—keep punching. . .!

JESS WILLARD REVISITED

A NOSTALGIC LOOK AT A FORGOTTON CHAMP

By L. DAVID HARRIS

A battered, bleeding Jess Willard had just lost the heavyweight boxing championship of the world to Jack Dempsey. Stumbling to his dressing room, he kept mumbling, "I have $100,000 and a farm in Kansas. I have $100,000 and a farm in Kansas . . .



St. Clere, Kansas is a wisp of a place—a couple of houses, a tavern. And a few vacant, weathered, ruined old buildings that hang on and refuse to fall.

This once was Willard country. Jess Willard country. Heavyweight boxing champion of the world from 1915 to 1919. The Kansas Giant. The Pottawatomie Plowboy. The Great White Hope.

And in a way that would have pleased old Jess, it's Willard country once again. Skip and Karen Keller have reopened the town's grocery store and turned it into Willard's Tavern.

Skip and Karen are natives of the area. She's from nearby Emmett; he's from Delia. They never knew Jess Willard; they never saw him. They were teenagers when he died in 1968 in Los Angeles. "But we grew up hearing about him." Karen said. "And we thought it was a shame that nobody remembered him that well and his town didn't even have a sign up about him. So we decided to call our place Willard's Tavern. Now people remember a little more."

Jess Willard was born Dec. 29, 1881, about a quarter mile east of St. Clere in a house that's now abandoned, but still standing. Jess' father, who died two months before he was born, operated one of St. Clere's two grocery stores.

His father's store burned down more than 50 years ago. It was replaced nearby with another grocery store. That store ran for about 45 years, closing in 1973. Then it was operated as a tavern for several years, but closed again. Skip and Karen reopened it as Willard's Tavern in December, 1977.

Six miles east of St. Clere is the Pottawatomie Indian reservation. Closer to town, in the Cross Creek bottomlands, it's excellent wheat country and farmland. To the west, it's cattle country.

Very few remember details about Willard. Most don't remember him at all. But here and there . . . someone asks a question, someone tells an old story. Gusts of memory sweep through and someone else remembers.

Willard finished his career in circuses and wild west shows. He trouped with shows, "where he rode out, waved his hat, then went back and helped with the shoveling."

It's 1979, Saturday afternoon in St. Clere at Willard's Tavern. Jess would have been at home here. The place is filled with friendly, neighborly folks. Many are related. They all know each other.

Tammy Wynette serenades from the juke box, then George Jones. Then Mel Tillis. Aside from the juke box, chili and heated sandwiches served out of a little microwave, Willard's Tavern is straight out of the frontier. Around its walls, a host of stuffed animals stand guard. A bobcat watches pool players. Antelope, deer and racoons watch the tables. Weasel, coyotes, fish and ducks eye the bar.

Eventually, the conversation gets to Jess Willard. Those who remember say Willard was a good-hearted, easy-going, giant of a man who preferred ponies to fighting, and married his childhood sweetheart, Hattie Evans, dreaming of nothing more than living happily ever after in a small Kansas town.

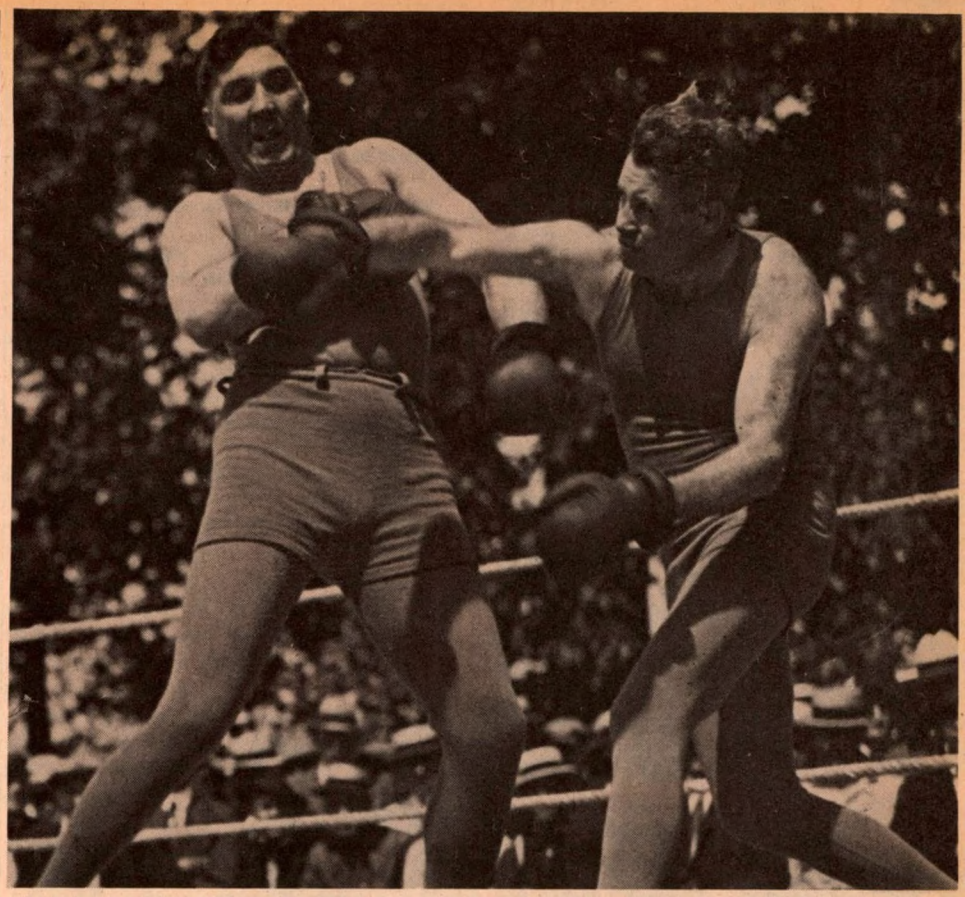
There are many Jess Willard stories. There's Jess, the unlucky, getting stabbed and almost dying when a friend got mad at him. There's Jess, the practical joker, taking a stranger for a wild ride to the local cemetery. There's Jess, the big man, who really didn't like to fight, but when he did, nothing—or nobody—could stop him. There's Jess, the bashful suitor, who only had eyes for Hattie. There's Jess, the hard-riding cowboy and driver, who "thought a buggy seat was a throne and the whip his sceptre . . . master of the horses and just as strong as they are."

Jess' stepfather, E.L. Stalker, who later retired from St. Clere farming and moved to Topeka, told a reporter from the Topeka Daily *Capital* in 1915 that "Jess was a fine boy, a good boy. But we never could get him to go to school. He always played hooky . . .

"There was a strip of timber between my farm and the schoolhouse and Jess' mother used to take a switch and follow him part way to school to make sure he wouldn't play hooky. But when he reached that timber, Jess would disappear and we wouldn't see any more of him until after school hours.

"He had some kind of a disagreement with the teacher and only went to school long enough to learn to read and write. He was 11 years old when I married his mother, but he was a big, fat, good-natured boy. He never gave any trouble at home."

And when he was younger, he was remembered for his size. Gertie Benner once



told friends, "If I'd a known Jess was to become famous, I'd have kept better track of his antics. But when I think about him now, what I remember most is how cute he was in his little wooden-wheeled wagon in which we hauled him around. He was a fat, overgrown baby."

When Jess was 12 he started his own business, horse trading with the Pottawatomie Indians. Apparently, he gave the neighboring Pottawatomies whiskey in return for some of their wildest ponies. He would later tame the ponies and sell them to local farmers.

The local folk say Willard did most of his early boxing and wrestling at the Emmett livery stable which he operated and built in his late teens. They say he was the "impartial referee" for many a bout and always a winner in his own scraps.

And although Willard was "broke most of the time," he used his size to advantage. They tell how he collected a debt by grabbing the debtor, holding him upside down in the air and shaking the money out of his pockets.

Agnes Lasswell remembers Willard. She remembers Willard "from all the country parties" that were a part of the community. "We went to all of those," she said. "It was everybody's social life. And Jess played 'Skip to My Lou' and 'Drop the Handkerchief' just like the rest of us."

Her husband Roy, now 89, says, "I remember seeing Jess when I was a little boy. He was about eight years older than me. And he was big—really big! He would pass by our place riding in from Indian country. He'd ride those little wooly ponies. And his legs were so long they'd drag the ground.

"I knew him all his life. We visited him in California about 15 years ago. He was a good man . . . he was one of us."

Bob Brown remembers Willard. Brown is a former state senator, now widowed and ranching near St. Clere. "I knew him later," Brown said. "I knew him when he was the champion. He had bought a large farm outside Lawrence, Kansas. I remember, too, that in the legislature we wanted to get a stamp made in his honor. But somehow it just didn't take."

Poor old Jess Willard. History hit him below the belt. Even when he won the big one . . .

He was pushing 30 when they took him out of the St. Clere wheat fields, out of his Emmett livery stable where he broke Indian ponies. They told him it was his patriotic duty to restore the heavyweight championship to the white race. They told him he was to be "The Great White Hope."

He was an easy-going giant who "didn't want to hurt anybody." And he suffered terribly when his roundhouse right killed a man in one of his first fights.

He wanted to quit then. But they told him he was "The Great White Hope." He went ahead and won the title from Jack Johnson. Johnson later said he took a dive

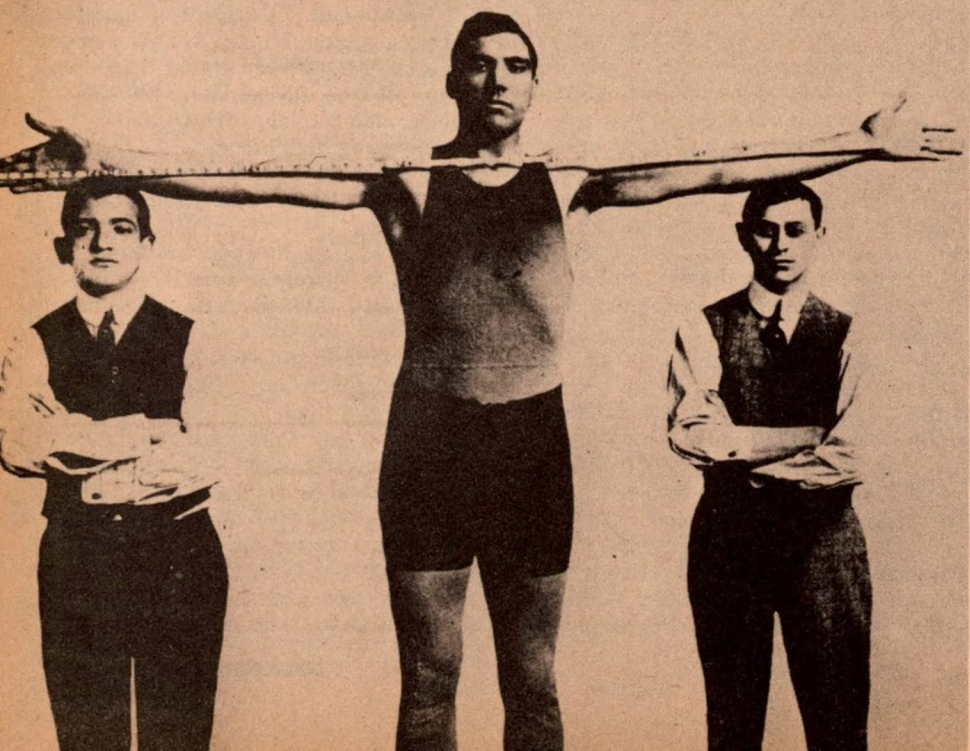
These exclusive pictures of Willard, once a part of Farmer Burn's extensive collection of glass plates, are reproduced here for the first time, courtesy of Jimmy Jacobs.

Willard, the Rodeo performer. (left)

Jess Willard's family — Hattie and his three children, circa 1916. (below, left)

Willard, posing in front of a poster advertising him as "The man who Beat Jack Johnson," has his gloves laced up for an exhibition bout. (below)

A publicity shot of Willard showing him demonstrating his 84" wing span over the heads of two munchkin-sized admirers. (far below)



and let Willard win. When Jack Dempsey won the title from Willard, nearly killing him, Willard said Dempsey's gloves were loaded.

Another time, Willard boarded a train at Menoken, Kansas, and headed for Emmett, announcing to the conductor that he had no money for a ticket. Further, he said he would fight the conductor "and all the train crew" before he would get off. He stayed on. But when he got to Emmett, he borrowed ticket money from a friend and paid.

Willard had been breaking horses, running a wagon train and farming. "One day I saw some fellows straining to lift a bale of cotton," he told the reporter. "It must have weighed 500 pounds. I lifted it up on the wagon, and they said, 'With all your strength and size, why don't you take up fighting?' "

And he did. In his career, Willard had 35 fights, all main events. He scored 20 knockouts, won three by decision, lost two by decision, one on an unintentional foul, had five no-decision matches, one draw and was stopped only by Joe Cox, Dempsey and Luis Firpo.

Willard won the heavyweight championship from Jack Johnson on a torrid afternoon at a Havana racetrack, April 5, 1915. He went into the fight an underdog, but Johnson wasn't in shape and Willard had trained mightily.

A movie of the Johnson-Willard fight showed it was an even contest for 20 rounds with Willard using his 84-inch reach to good advantage. It ended with Willard knocking Johnson out in the 26th of the scheduled 45-round match.

Five years later, Johnson, impoverished and living in Paris, sold a magazine article in which he claimed he took a dive in their fight.

"I always said," Willard remarked, "if he was going to quit, why did he wait 26 rounds, one hour and 44 minutes under a sun that was 115 degrees hot to quit? . . . Or wait five years to say he took a dive?"

After the Johnson victory, Willard was a local—if not a national—hero. Cashing in on his new-found popularity, he toured the country with several wild west shows and circuses, among them the 101 Ranch Wild West Show, the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show and Circus and Sells Floto Circus. With all the shows, he rode horses and appeared in wild west displays. But on Sells Floto, he and wrestling champion Frank Gotch both "met all comers" and a prize was offered to anyone who could stay in the ring with either of them for more than 15 minutes. One of his first stops was at the Topeka Fair Grounds. Many of his St. Clere and Emmett friends came to see him.

Roy Lasswell remembers Willard show-

L. David Harris is a freelance writer who wrote a thesis on Jess Willard for his masters.

ing him the boxing gloves he wore for the Johnson fight. "Oh, he was something!" Lasswell said. "Part of his show there at the fairgrounds was to let people come up and pound on him, pound on his chest, as hard as they could. But they couldn't hurt him. They'd pound on him and he'd just laugh."

But four years later, he didn't laugh. Defending his title in the 112 degree heat against Jack Dempsey in Toledo, Ohio, he was floored eight times in the first round, his cheekbone crushed, his ribs caved in. He had to quit when his crushed ribs threatened to puncture a lung. He couldn't breathe. His manager and handlers did a disappearing act. His eyes were so swollen that a spectator had to lead him back to his dressing room. Spitting blood, he kept mumbling, "I have $100,000 and a farm in Kansas . . ."

His wife, Hattie, who had watched the fight at ringside, told the Associated Press, "I am sorry that Jess was beaten, but I can truthfully say that I'm happy he's no longer champion.

"It means, now, that we shall be able to live in peace. Jess will become a private citizen again. It was the second boxing contest I had ever witnessed and I do not want to witness any more. I'll be happy when I can take Jess back to our children."

Willard contended all his life that Dempsey's gloves—or at least the left one which did all the damage—contained something other than the usual padding.

He blamed Dempsey's manager, Jack Kearns. In laughing off Willard's claim, Kearns told the Asociated Press, "Naw, I didn't use plaster of Paris on the bandages, it was cement."

For many years, Willard was regarded as a mediocre fighter who wouldn't have won the championship if Jack Johnson had really trained for the fight. Willard was judged awkward, lacking a killer instinct, and it was said that he only won because of his enormous size—six feet seven inches, 250 pounds.

However, students of the films of the Johnson-Willard fight agreed that Willard was a far better fighter than they had realized or remembered—maybe the most underrated heavyweight champion of all time.

Willard was moved, in turn, to comment, "I'm glad some of these things finally came out, even if it was 45 years too late."

His last remembered visit to St. Clere was in August, of 1935, when he stopped "for a beer at Ben Allen's, and shook hands with all his friends." And he told them he always got homesick when people referred to him as the "Pottawatomie Giant."

His friends kept in touch. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perry, of St. Clere, moved to California, and often saw the old champion. During one of their last visits, Willard brought out the boxing gloves he wore when he won his championship. He also had kept a saddle from his circus days.

In his last years, one of Willard's closest friends was Joseph Stone, chairman of the communication arts department of Loyola Marymount University at Los Angeles.

Stone, also an ex-fighter, did a television documentary of Willard's life, which Stone claims proves that Dempsey did, indeed have something in his gloves when he beat Willard.

What did Willard think about being the "Great White Hope"?

"It didn't seem to me he felt especially about it one way or the other. He wasn't a racist. I was around him a whole lot and I never once heard any racial references. I never heard that at all.

"And now talking about him, I'm reminded what a really amazing man he was, how sociable he could be, yet change all at once."

Stone told about taking a *New York Times* reporter to meet Willard.

"We sat there and the fellow asked Jess a ton of questions. And Jess was on one of his upbeat days and it was beautiful. And the interviewer was just smiling and looking at me and laughing and he was off and running.

"But ultimately, he said to Jess, 'Now Jess, with all this experience and the Dempsey fight so long in the past, and you both such great figures, did you ever think of a friendship with him?'

"The old man looked like a storm cloud. And pretty soon the interviewer just quit because he could see the old man was just glowering . . . And that was the end of the interview. I mean he didn't say another word! And I looked at his wife, Hattie, and she looked at me, and I said to the interviewer, 'Let's go.'

"And we got up and went out and Hattie saw us to the door and the old man is still sitting on the couch, glowering and staring straight ahead. "I'll tell you, Jess Willard was a remarkable, wonderful man. But the whole thing with Dempsey was a shadow over his life."

In his last years, Willard suffered from chronic heart trouble. The week he died, he had been hospitalized, and released, then readmitted with another heart attack.

His wife and son, Alan, were with him when he died.

A doctor told reporters, "Jess Willard went out fighting." ■

JESS WILLARD'S RING RECORD

Born: December 29, 1881. **Weight:** 225-250. **Height:** 6'6¼

1911

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Feb. 15	Louis Fink	Sapulpa, Ok.	LF 10
March 7	Ed Burke	El Reno, Ok.	KO 3
March 28	Louis Fink	Oklahoma City	KO 3
April 14	Al Mendeno	Oklahoma City	KO 4
April 29	Joe Cavanaugh	Oklahoma City	KO 11
June 8	Bill Shiller	Oklahoma City	KO 4
July 4	Frank Lyons	Elk City, Ok.	W 10
July 16	Mike Comiskey	Hammond, Ok.	W 10
Oct. 11	Joe Cox	Springfield, Mo.	KO by 5

1912

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
May 23	John Young	Fort Wayne	KO 6
June 29	Frank Bowers	St. Charles, Ill.	KO 3
July 2	John Young	So. Chicago, Ill.	KO 5
July 29	Arthur Pelkey	New York	ND 10
Aug. 19	Luther McCarty	New York	ND 10
Dec. 2	Sailor White	Buffalo	KO 1
Dec. 27	Soldier Kearns	New York	KO 8

1913

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Jan. 22	Frank Bauer	Fort Wayne	KO 5
March 5	Jack Leon	Fort Wayne	KO 4
May 20	Ed (Gunboat) Smith	San Francisco	L 20
June 27	Charley Miller	San Francisco	D 4
July 4	Al William	Reno	W 8
Aug. 22	Bull Young	Vernon, Calif.	KO 11
Nov. 17	George (Boer) Rodel	Milwaukee	ND 10
Nov. 24	Jack Reed	Fort Wayne	KO 2
Dec. 3	Carl Morris	New York	ND 10
Dec. 12	George Davis	Buffalo	KO 2
Dec. 29	George (Boer) Rodel	New Haven	KO 9

1914

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
March 27	Tom (Bearcat) MacMahon	Youngstown	L 12
April 13	Dan Daily	Buffalo	KO 9
April 28	George (Boer) Rodel	Atlanta	KO 6

1915

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
April 5	Jack Johnson	Havana	KO 26
	Won world heavyweight title		

1916

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
March 25	Frank Moran	New York	ND 10

1919

DATE	OPONENT	SITE	RESULT
July 4	Jack Dempsey	Toledo	KO by 3
	Lost world heavyweight title		

1923

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
May 12	Floyd Johnson	New York	KO 11
July 12	Luis Angel Firpo	Jersey City	KO by 8

Summary

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KO'S	ND*
35	23	6	1	20	5

*No Decision

from the Ring Record Book

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

INGEMAR JOHANSSON— BOXING'S ONE-YEAR COVER BOY

Ingemar as champion, 1959.

By NAT LOUBET

The sun bounces off ripples on the lapping water against the 23-foot open fishing boat awaiting its master's pleasure. Manicured lawns with a swimming pool rise from the canal to meet a comfortable house that speaks of the contentment within.

As he sits in a comfortable armchair in the living room, it is clear that Ingemar Johansson, ex-heavyweight champion of the world, has not been brutalized by boxing. His unmarked face, set off by clear blue eyes and hair that age has darkened from golden, is a study in tranquility. Unlike the homes of most champions, his is not adorned by photos, medals, plaques and other mementos.

"Ingo", as he was tabbed by the sportswriters, speaks in a delicately accented English laced with Swedish highlights. He still favors the "Ivy League" look — a blue blazer and white shoes.

Born September 22, 1932, in Gotenborg, Sweden, Ingemar today is a young looking 47 — although he sports about forty more pounds than he did in his fighting prime.

How did this sensitive man with a radiant smile, born in a country where professional boxing is not allowed, get into boxing?

"I was always bigger than the other boys and when we had the usual scraps that kids have I discovered I had a good punch," he laughed. "I seemed to have a fast right and as I grew it kinda got faster."

It was that punch that later carried Ingo to the heavyweight championship of the world and became known to the boxing world as the "Hammer of Thor" — and is, in some quarters, as "Toonder and Lightening."

He currently uses the fists that carried him to the crown to swing a tennis racket, a golf club, propel himself through the water in his pool, and to fight the "big ones" way out in the sea.

Always a natural athlete, Ingemar said, "I think I could have been fairly good at any sport." He is overly modest — despite his added poundage, his body is a supple-muscled machine that moves with grace and ease.

Ingo has always done what he wants to do when he wants to do it. Currently he is involved in a new business, a motel down the road from his home which will keep him in the U.S. much more than in the past. "Up to now I have been spending about eight months in Florida and the other four (the summer months) in Sweden. I have real estate interest back there and I wish I had done the same over here — real estate is slow but good," he said.

We got back on the subject of his early days. "I quit school at about 15 and started my boxing career by the time I was 16." (His first fight was an amateur bout on February 17, 1948, which he won by a decision). By the time he turned pro in 1952 he had 71 fights as an amateur with only 11 losses.

Prior to turning pro, Ingo worked as a laborer and trained hard to develop his own style of boxing. No one ever helped develop Ingemar. He was always his own man and his destiny was his own doing. His forte, a short left jab that he turned into a hook to bring his opponent's guard down, was characteristically followed by an overhand right. Although not the hardest right hand puncher in heavyweight history, Johansson had an Aquavit right — one good shot and you're out cold!

Still a youngster, 17, when he was married for the first time, Ingemar's first marriage didn't last too long. As Ingemar explains it: "We were just both too young." The union produced two children, Thomas, now 24, and Jane, 29.

He did a stint in the Swedish Navy in the early 50's which changed nothing in his life.

His subsequent marriage to Birgit Lungren, after he won the title, ended in a separation some nine years ago with both parties remaining the very best of friends and still seeing a great deal of each other. They had two children, Patrick, now 16, and a daughter, 14.

A couple of years after first lacing on his

gloves, Ingo made the Swedish national boxing team, competing in the '52 Olympics. When he lost to Ed Sanders by a disqualification in the finals, Ingo's popularity plummeted. But it all returned as he inched his way up the professional ladder. On September 30, 1956, he knocked out Franco Cavicchi in 13 rounds to win the European heavyweight title and announced to the boxing world he was a force to be reckoned with.

Two years later he catapulted further into the public eye by taking on an American, Eddie Machen, thought by many to have the fastest hands in the business. In the first round, before Machen could wind up, Ingo landed his "Thor" and Eddie went down for the count. It was Ingo's 21st fight as a pro and his 13th kayo.

The win gave him a shot at Floyd Patterson's heavyweight title. His three bouts with Floyd are history. After winning the title, Ingo was knocked out in the fifth round by Patterson in a return engagement, making Floyd the first heavyweight to win the heavy title twice. A year later, 1961, in Miami, in their rubber match, Patterson knocked out Ingo in six rounds. Many blamed Ingo's unique method of training for his poor showing in this fight. But those who knew Ingo also knew that this wasn't the case — he had always trained his way. (I remember seeing Ingemar up at Grossinger's and his unorthodox training methods had us all a little befuddled. Who ever heard of a world class fighter swimming, dancing, and eating late night snacks while training?)

Ingo thrived on such fare and those of us who couldn't believe our eyes were convinced he was just another "opponent" when he climbed into the ring for his first challenge with Patterson. We had watched him refuse to use his much-heralded right hand in training. "Why should I hurt my sparring partners — I am here to train, not to impress anyone."

Then came the night of the fight and this bull of a man — heavy in the chest and strong in the arms — spent two meaningless rounds boxing with his mouth open most of the time. Then he suddenly walked in and belted Patterson and the fight was over. It looked so easy. He made it look that way.

Until that fight he had only been on the floor once in his career, when southpaw Aldo Pelegrini put him there for an eight count before fouling out a few rounds later.

Ingo's winning of the crown made all the Swedes in New York and in Sweden feel like Vikings. He is a hero in his native land to this day.

After winning the title in 1959 he was the recipient of the Associated Press' "Athlete of the Year Award" — only one of two fighters ever to have gained that honor, the other being Joe Louis in 1935.

Ingo's entire professional career was guided, as much as anyone could ever guide

Ingo, by Sweden's outstanding manager and promoter, Edwin Ahlquist. Together they have thrived and after Johansson lost his title he went back to Sweden, having four more fights and winning them all. He knocked out Joe Bygraves in 7, Wim Snoek in 5, Dick Richardson in 8 to regain the European heavyweight title, and decisioned Brian London in his last fight in 1963.

He had a total of 28 professional fights, with 17 kayoes and only two losses — those to Patterson.

I recall Ingo's brief fling with acting. The medium was television and the vehicle was Ernest Hemingway's "The Killers." The first time a scene which featured a fixed fight was attempted the director shook his head and almost cried. "Ingo," he said, "a little realism. Hit the guy, will you — make it look good!"

Ingo shrugged his shoulders, and when the cameras began to grind belted his opponent (an ex-sparring partner) a good shot in the jaw. Down went the guy and out popped a tooth. "Who's going to pay for this?" croaked the victim.

Ingemar turned to the director. "You wanted it — you pay for it." The director did!

Ingemar was apologetic. "There is no middle way; either I do it or I don't."

The sun was sinking behind the flag pole and we still hadn't gotten around to all those years since Ingo lost the crown.

"I went into the construction business, heavy building equipment, and it was a case of moving around, a lot of hard work but not making much."

Then, according to Ingemar, "I went into fishing — owning two trawlers. My first was an all-steel boat costing around $100,000 and my uncle was the captain, and then I added another and we all went fishing."

Johansson got along well in the fishing endeavor, but he also got bored. "Every six or eight years I change things, I get tired and go into something else."

Next came the restaurant in Goteburg. All went well until Ingo turned the running over to a second party. The police closed the place up. "When I was no longer there, there was too much fighting." Case—and one restaurant—closed.

Ingemar moved to Spain for a few years and most of us lost touch with him. Then he moved to the U.S. and took up residency in the Pompano area, where he can be found today.

When asked how the world was treating him, Ingo grinned, "You have to take good care of yourself or you go broke. I'm doing good . . . I'm happy. Yes, it's all very good."

Most feel that the money Ingo made out of his three fights with Patterson should have made him a millionaire. However, those in the know are sure that he never saw all of his share. Said Ingo, "I didn't get that much but it's all right — I'm doing fine." He showed no anger against those who may have shortchanged him.

The conversation meandered around to the current boxing scene and Larry Holmes, WBC world heavyweight champ. The former champ opines: "He looks real good one fight and then like a palooka the next time you see him. We get good television down here, and although I'm not that much on boxing any more, I watch. As to Holmes — how can you tell — he fights, nothing much."

Warming up to his subject, Johansson launched into all-time heavyweight greats. "You really can't compare all the fighters from different times in boxing — look at all the sports — the training is different, the people are better, and all the records are being broken."

He continued: "Yoe Louis (he pronounces all his Js like Ys) was probably the best of 'em all — he fought so many good ones."

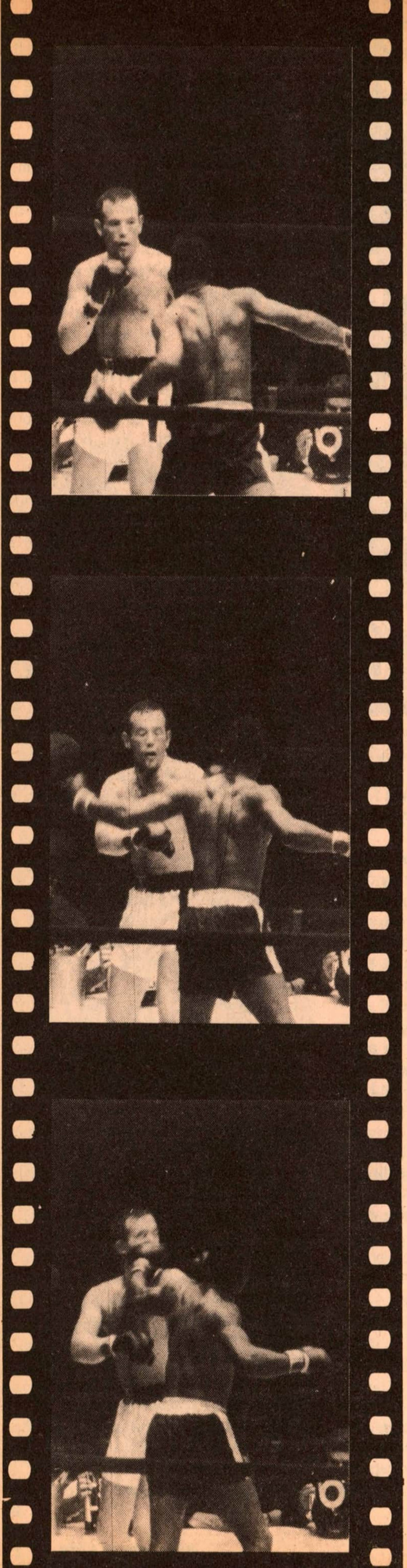
Ingo was reflective and then slowly added: "But there was Yack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Yack Yohnson, and Muhammad Ali — he was one of the best too." Then he suddenly blurted out, "There's that other man who was never beaten — Rocky Marciano. Yas, Marciano. He was very good — fantastic style — tough, and when he crowded you into the ropes he was very dangerous. I would like to see Ali and Marciano. Now *that* would have been some fight! I wouldn't put any money on anyone!"

Ingemar laughed and reached for his tennis racket. He is getting into shape to enter The Superstar Olympics to be held in December where he will compete with other top athletes in track, golf, swimming, and tennis.

Knowing Ingo, we haven't heard the last of him. ■

GREAT KO's

THE LEFT THAT PUT FLOYD RIGHT BACK ON TOP



Sports TUESDAY New York Herald Tribune 19.. Finance 27

Floyd Kayoes Ingo in Fifth

RED SMITH

Bad for Swedes

THEY said Floyd Patterson was a man destined for obscurity, trapped in mediocrity, a glass-chinned ex-champion butting a dreamer's head against the hard reality that "They never come back." Last night he was close to greatness and so was Ingemar Johansson—much, much too close for the Swede's good, for the greatness was all Floyd's.

After 13 minutes, 51 seconds of tensely exciting fighting in the Polo Grounds, Ingemar was in a coma. He should have been in Gothenburg. This was the way of it as the victim of seven knockdowns last June came ripping and slashing back to the heavyweight championship of the world, a bauble that no man before him ever lost and then regained.

From the opening bell, Patterson went hunting that title, first with hooks, then with jabs, occasionally with right hands that helped redden the pale pelt below wary Scandinavian eyes. The mighty right hand, the Hammer of Thor which struck him down a year ago, landed cleanly only once against his bobbing, ducking head. This was in the second round and the punch was too high to do damage.

For four rounds Floyd stalked his quarry, who responded with jabs, missed sparingly with the right, occasionally advanced behind the jab but generally backed hastily away as Floyd charged him. Then it was the fifth round.

One Round, Two Lefts

In a clinch on the ropes, Patterson hacked the champion's ... hard, short right. They broke without orders ... half-way along the ropes on the first- ... caught the Swede with a long, ... the chin. Ingemar crashed flat ... tired to the closest neutral ... referee in an odd revision ...

Red Smith

Associated Press wirephoto

THE CROWNING BLOW—Floyd Patterson ... sent Ingemar Johansson to deck for keeps in ... Polo Grounds last night. The end came at 1:... and the big punch, a left to jaw which ... fifth round of heavyweight title fight at ... of the round. Patterson became the ...

Ex-Champion 1st Ever To Regain Heavy Title

45,000 See Patterson's Left Hook Wreck Swede in 1:51 of Round

By Jesse Abramson

It was Floyd Patterson's turn to bat at the Polo Grounds last night and he hit for all the bases, cleaning Ingemar Johansson off the world heavyweight throne. With two tremendous leaping left hooks, the very kind the boxing critics said would spell disaster for him, the youthful New York fighter stretched the Swedish defender for a count of nine and then for the full count of ten in 1 minute 51 seconds of the fifth round in their championship re-match scheduled for 15 rounds. The historic result brought complete chaos in and outside the ring as an uncontrolled mob overran the ringside area, smothering everything in its path.

Flat on his back, his eyes closed, his head twitching from side to side, his legs twitching, blood oozing from his mouth, the unseeing, unknowing champion took the count of ten, a stride from his corner. He was completely demolished from the explosive left hook that Patterson crashed against his jaw.

With his personal physician from Goteborg, Dr. Gosta Karlsson, and two New York Boxing Commission physicians, Drs. Alex Schoff and Samuel Swetnick working to bring him to, Johansson was inert for ten minutes before he was able to leave the ring. He had been lifted up by the doctors, but he sank back again. Finally he was placed on a stool, still dazed, weak and groggy.

First to Regain Title

It was a punch, that left hook of Patterson's, that rang all the bells of the entire Queensberry era of more than sixty years. For the first time in the history of the division from the days of John L. Sullivan a heavyweight had come back ...

Ring Mobbed

As Bout Ended, It Was Riot

By Harold Rosenthal

The near-riot confusion which attended the dethroning of Ingemar Johansson last night was the worst in a decade of outdoor shows. Only the spectators overrunning the reserved seats at the Ray Robinson-Randy Turpin middleweight title bout at the same Polo Grounds came close to it.

As if at a signal, a horde of young trouble-seekers overran the working press section of a half-dozen rows ... on the ...

By Jimmy Jacobs

Perhaps the greatest moment in all of sports is the knockout. Jimmy Jacobs, boxing's film historian, has selected some of those great moments when glove hits man and man hits floor, exclusively for the readers of Ring *Magazine.*

Here in the second of our series, we bring you another of those classic moments, the fifth round knockout of Ingemar Johansson by Floyd Patterson, the historical moment when Patterson became the first to regain the heavyweight championship.

One of boxing's oldest maxims was "They never come back." And nine former champions had proved it as they tried — and failed — to rewin their previously lost title: James J. Corbett (twice), Bob Fitzsimmons, James J. Jeffries, Jack Dempsey, Max Schmeling, Joe Louis, Ezzard Charles (three times) and Jersey Joe Walcott.

On the night of June 20, 1960, Floyd Patterson became the 10th former champion to attempt to rescale the heavyweight heights. And the first to make it back to the top.

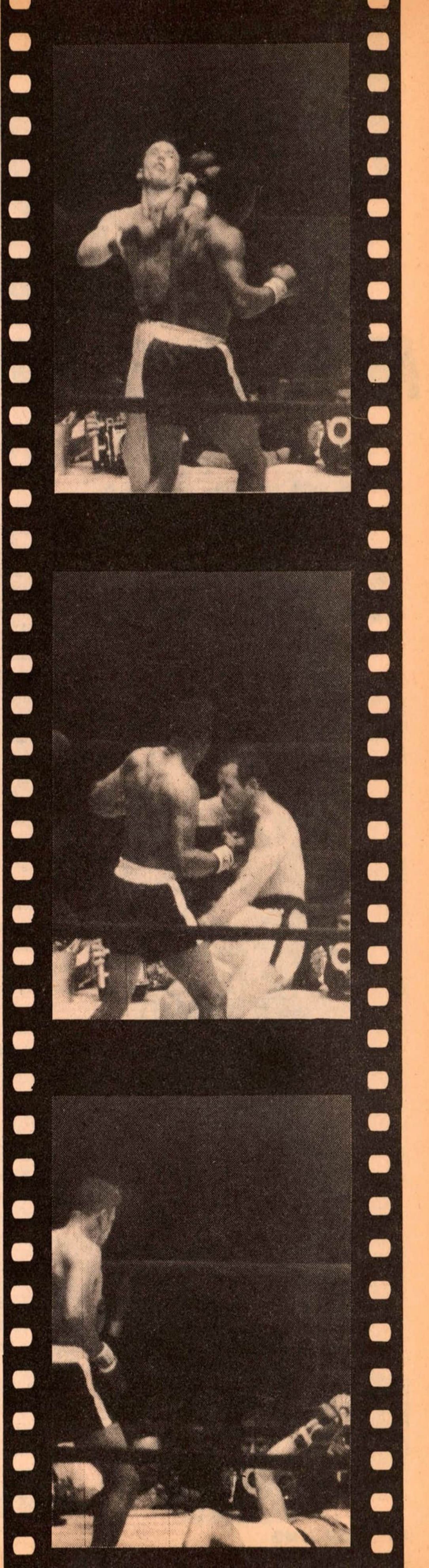
Humiliated in defeat 51 weeks before by "The Hammer of Thor," Patterson devoted himself to winning back "his" crown. He had had to live with the taunts: glass jaw, a man destined for obscurity, an overweight middleweight, and hundreds more. Ever since he had fallen seven times to Johansson he had had to take it. But he didn't like it. Now it was Johansson's turn in the barrel.

For 13 minutes and 51 seconds, the former champion had taken the fight to the Swede, first with hooks, then jabs, and occasionally throwing in a right hand that reddened Johansson's eyes. Only once was he hit with "The Hammer of Thor," in the second round; and then it landed too high on the forehead to do any damage. It was Johansson's last chance, and the only round he was to win.

Patterson came out for the fifth as if he was a man possessed. He hacked away at the champion's head with hard, short rights whipped over Ingo's shoulder in the clinch; then he caught him with a long, looping left to the point of the chin, putting Johansson down for the count of nine.

As the dazed Johansson tried to fend him off with a couple of tentative pawing rights, Patterson pounced again, hammering the stunned Swede to the body and swinging him completely around. Then, Floyd started a deep-dish beauty of a punch that started somewhere back of third base at the Polo Grounds — probably going even as far back as his boyhood neighborhood in the Bedford-Stuyvesant ghetto — and brought it up to the chin of Johansson. The much-disparaged kangaroo punch exploded on Ingo's jaw and he went down in sections, as if sandbagged. As he lay there, mouth open, blood drooling out of the right corner, legs and head twitching, Johansson was counted out — referee Arthur Mercante could have counted to 10,000 — and Floyd Patterson, who was to call the punch "The hardest I ever hit any man" raised his arms in a manner of an overproud pouter pigeon.

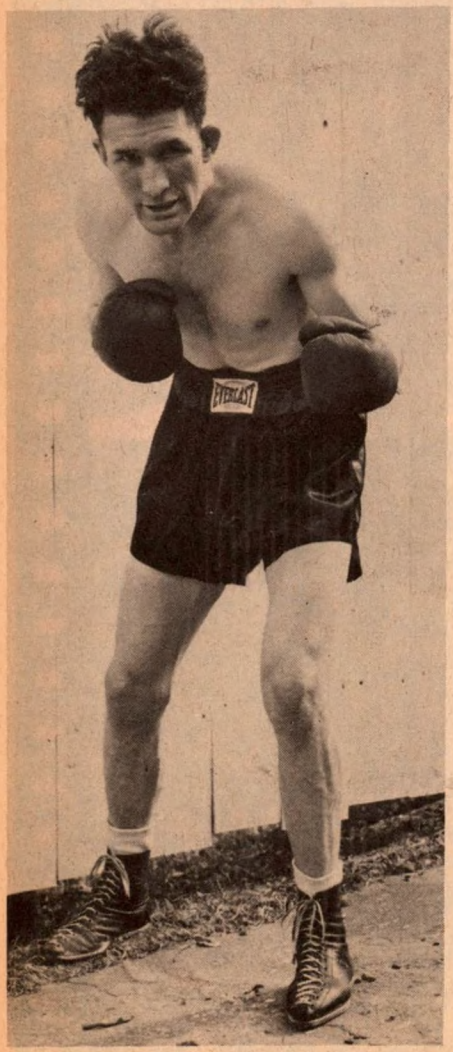
He had reason to be proud. He had become the first man to regain the most coveted of all sports crowns, the heavyweight championship of the world.



RED ALL OVER

THE SAGA OF LEW JENKINS: HE PUNCHED HARD—AND LIVED THE SAME WAY

By RED SMITH



When Lew Jenkins was lightweight champion of the world it was his pleasure to while away the weeks between bouts by sparring with an opponent called Old Taylor, or, crouched astride the motorcycle that he loved, jousting with trucks at catchweights. Two to three days before a big-money match that Mike Jacobs had booked for him, the promoter started out to lunch from his offices in the Brill Building just as a motorcycle came ripping out of Fiftieth Street and wheeled into the Broadway traffic on screeching tires. Mike, shuddering, recognized his valuable chattel just as the lightweight champion spotted the promoter.

"Hey, Mike!" Jenkins yelled. "Look, no hands!"

Twelve days after Pearl Harbor, Jenkins lost his title to Sammy Angott. A lot of other guys whipped him and then he and his banjo and his devil-bike disappeared from the fight beat. During the Allied invasion of Normandy, Bill Heinz, war correspondent for the *Sun*, found himself off the French coast on an LST that was tied up to another LST attached to the Coast Guard.

"Hey," said a guy on Bill's craft, "know who's aboard that other thing? Lew Jenkins, the fighter."

Bill hadn't known Jenkins before the war, but he'd known about him. An irresponsible whack, a good puncher and a good guy, without malice but wild and undependable. "A guy," Bill said, "who, when he was champion, didn't live or behave like one."

So Bill stepped across and looked him up and they sat on the deck shooting the breeze. It was a quiet evening, all blue and pink. Jenkins wore faded blue dungarees and a faded blue shirt, and the pink of the clouds was pale beside his gaunt, sunburned features. He'd been back of the Japanese lines, landing men and supplies in Burma, and he'd taken part in the landings in Sicily and Salerno, Italy, and he'd been decorated by the British and had a number of citations from our government.

He got talking about fighting, not in the ring but G.I. style. His admiration for the foot soldier was something close to worship.

"There's nothing like a soldier," Lew said. "When this is over, every guy here ought to get a good house to live in and a good job. He's earned it, and if he don't get that, he's being cheated. If I had a house, I'd want a soldier living in it."

Fact was, Lew had had a couple of houses, but he didn't any longer. The house he'd got in Sweetwater, Texas, with some of his ring earnings, he'd lost. The one he had in Florida was gone, too. He'd also lost his wife, Katie, and now she was managing a fighter named Carmine Fatta, who had formerly been one of Jenkins's sparring partners, and she was going around telling people that Carmine had often flattened Lew in training camp.

"Lies," Lew said, that quiet evening off the coast of Normandy. "Don't you understand? It's all lies. She'd like to get the motorsickle, too, but she won't. The cops in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, are saving that for me."

One doesn't like to labor a point, but here was a guy who'd had fame and money and now what he had left was the motorcycle, which must have been a kind of symbol to him. But when he'd had all the rest, he'd never had any stability, any faith to cling to. And now, at least, he had a kind of religion of his own—his reverence for the fighting man.

"A soldier is the most wonderful thing in the world," Lew said. "Oh, the Navy and the Coast Guard are all right. We get guys killed, too. But we take the soldiers into a beach and then we go away and leave 'em there."

When the war was over and Bill Heinz was back home writing sports, he and another fellow went over to Pompton Lakes when Gus Lesnevich and Lee Oma were training for a fight. The other fellow had a call from his office and came back from the phone chuckling.

"This'll kill you," he said. "That Lew Jenkins has gone and enlisted in the Army. What is it? A gag?"

Bill could have answered the question, but he didn't try. It would have been hard to explain why Lew had to join the Army. It might have sounded silly to say that in the Army, surrounded by death, Lew at last had found life that had meaning.

Maybe an army between wars wasn't exactly right for him, though, for when he had served his hitch he got out. He enrolled in a school of bricklaying in Philadelphia, but gave that up. He tried a comeback in the ring. He beat some obscure guys and lost to some and got knocked out by some. The comeback wasn't a particularly good idea.

The other day there was a photograph in the paper. It showed a soldier named Lew Jenkins receiving the Silver Star for gallantry in action in Korea. Only the very best soldiers get the Silver Star. ■

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